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Oman Resumes Mediation To Improve Egypt-Iran Ties

*LD2906082093 Tehran IRNA in English 0639 GMT
29 Jun 93*

[Text] Athens, June 29, IRNA—The Sultanate of Oman has resumed its efforts to improve the tension-ridden relations between Cairo and Tehran, Arab daily AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Monday [28 June] reported.

Egypt will open its file on ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran after the end of the African summit which began in Cairo Monday, it said.

'Umar al-Zawawi, a special envoy of Sultan Qabus of Oman, recently visited Cairo to discuss the course of Egyptian-Iranian relations, according to the paper.

Diplomatic sources in Cairo told the daily that Omani efforts are aimed at ending the diplomatic freeze between the two Muslim countries following Egypt's unfounded accusations that Iran was supporting "terrorist" groups inside Egypt.

Al-Zawawi is expected to visit Tehran soon to hold talks with Iranian officials on the matter.

Meanwhile, Syria is also expected to resume its mediation efforts in cooperation with Oman to resolve swiftly the outstanding differences between Egypt and Iran, the paper added.

Arab-Israeli Talks

Talks Reported Focusing on Palestinian-Israeli Track

JN2906140493 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Reports from Washington during the past few hours indicate that U.S. and Israeli attention, as well as that of the negotiating delegations, is becoming more focused on the Palestinian-Israeli track. The U.S. side emphasized the particular importance it places on this track during last night's meeting between Warren Christopher, the U.S. secretary of state, and Faysal al-Husayni, head of the Palestinian team to the peace negotiations.

A Palestinian source in Washington said that this scheduled meeting dealt with the issues discussed in the negotiations that have taken place since 15 June, especially the issue of Jerusalem. During the meeting, al-Husayni reiterated that Palestinian autonomy in the occupied Arab territories should also apply to occupied Arab Jerusalem. Al-Husayni objected to the isolation of Jerusalem from the rest of the West Bank as a result of the siege the Israeli Army has been imposing for three months. He said that certain measures should be taken as soon as possible to relieve the pressure on the Palestinian inhabitants.

It is noted that the United States today or tomorrow will present a draft declaration of principles on autonomy in the occupied territories. The Palestinians and Israelis did not reach an agreement on such a document.

Christopher telephoned Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin on 25 June and discussed the U.S. document with him. The Americans intended to increase their participation in the peace talks to give new momentum to the 10th round of bilateral negotiations three days before they end.

The Israeli delegation said that Dennis Ross, the special U.S. coordinator of the peace negotiations, will conduct a tour of the Middle East in July to prepare for the next stages of negotiations.

Sources close to the Arab delegations said that Ross focused his work on the Palestinian-Israeli track, the stalemate of which is obstructing the entire negotiations. In the past two days, officials in the U.S. Department of State held contacts about this with Palestinian and Israeli officials.

During last night's Palestinian-Israeli session, the Palestinians again raised the issue of Jerusalem, which the Israelis refuse to discuss. After the meeting, Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, deputy head of the Palestinian delegation, told reporters that Jerusalem is the main issue of negotiation and said that the Israelis are obstructing any progress in the talks. The Palestinian official denounced statements by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, who last week ruled out any settlement on the issue of Jerusalem. 'Urayqat added that such statements will only widen the gap among the parties. 'Urayqat also criticized an Israeli proposal to expedite the transfer of authority on public facilities in the occupied territories. He said that first of all, a comprehensive agreement should be reached on autonomy and that the Israelis may destroy the peace process by reversing the issue and starting from the end.

The Israelis proposed giving certain responsibilities to the Palestinians in the areas of education, health, tourism, labor, social affairs, road networks, and transportation.

For his part, Elyaqim Rubinstein, head of the Israeli delegation to negotiations with the Palestinians, said the Israeli proposal is not an alternative to an agreement on autonomy. He added that the issue of Jerusalem should not be presented for negotiation.

Syria's al-'Allaf: No Agreement Without Withdrawal

JN3006064593 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Washington—In yesterday's meeting, the Syrian delegation to the peace talks responded to the Israeli side's attempts to evade the land-for-peace formula. Following the meeting, Syrian chief delegate Muwaffaq al-'Allaf stated that the Israeli side was told

that like it or not, the peace process is based on the land-for-peace formula and that Arab land must be returned if peace is to be achieved.

Al-'Allaf said: We explained how deeply concerned we are over the Israelis' evasion since the beginning of the peace process of their only obligation under Resolution 242, which is full withdrawal. At the same time, they continue to make all sorts of demands, regardless of whether or not they are part of that resolution.

Al-'Allaf indicated that discussions during yesterday's meeting, which maintained the no-progress rule, were of a general nature. He explained that each side reviewed its understanding of Resolution 242 and its understanding of the question of security. Al-'Allaf said that it appears that the Israeli side has begun to better understand the Syrian position on the principles that must be observed when security arrangements are laid down, such as mutual and equal security. He added that despite this understanding, they are not in a position so far to abide by these principles.

Al-'Allaf was asked what the Syrian side expects from the U.S. sponsor of the talks, he replied: We want the United States, the sponsor of the peace conference, to convince the Israeli side, which has so far not accepted the bases of the peace process and the land-for-peace formula, that no peace can be achieved without full Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967.

Al-'Allaf stated that the Israeli delegation does not have the required mandate to allow the peace process to advance. He referred to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's statement two days ago that he is no hurry to make a breakthrough in the peace process. He said that Rabin's statement reminds us of a similar statement made by his predecessor, Shamir, who declared that he intended to make the negotiations continue without results for 10 years.

Al-'Allaf said that while the Arabs cannot continue negotiations that do not achieve results indefinitely, the time factor will not force them to accept what contravenes their rights and the inevitable restoration of their entire territories in accordance with UN resolutions. [passage omitted]

Lubrani Questions Lebanese Security Capability

TA3006044393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The head of the Lebanese delegation, Suhayl Shammās, yesterday told the Israeli side that his government is extending its control over the entire country and is capable of maintaining security along the border if Israel agrees to withdraw from the security zone. His Israeli counterpart, Uri Lubrani, was skeptical.

[Begin Lubrani recording] Yesterday morning, katyusha rockets were launched from areas north, and outside, the

security zone, in an area where forces of UNIFIL [UN Interim Force in Lebanon] are presently deployed. These areas are staging areas to which these rockets, which have been fired, have been brought through Lebanese Army checkpoints, either from al-Biqā' or from Beirut. The rockets fired yesterday caused injuries to two civilians and much damage to property in Israel.

The Hizballah organization, which the distinguished Chairman Shammās has taken pains today to describe as national resistance forces, has taken responsibility for this indiscriminate act of terror. [end recording]

Lubrāni quoted the latest State Department report on terrorism in which Hizballah is described as a radical Shiite group, very anti-Western and anti-Israel, which aims to establish an Iranian-style Islamic republic in Lebanon, and to stamp out any non-Islamic influence there. [passage omitted]

Jordanians, Israelis Discuss Permit Holders Issue

JN2906144293 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Jordan has reiterated its solid position on the issue of permit holders, which, it says, is an integral part of the refugee problem.

This came in a statement by the chief of Jordan's delegation to the Middle East peace talks now in their 10th round in Washington.

Speaking to reporters following yesterday's talks with the Israelis, Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah said his delegation is still awaiting an Israeli response to the issue. He described the permit holders subject as a basic element in achieving a comprehensive, just, and permanent settlement in the Middle East.

Dr. al-Tarawinah said Jordan seeks real progress on all fronts with the aim of reaching a comprehensive peaceful resolution in the region. He said informal working groups yesterday discussed topics on the agenda, including water rights.

On the Palestinian-Israeli track, the deputy chief Palestinian delegate said yesterday's session focused on the future status of Jerusalem.

Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat told reporters that the Palestinian negotiators had asked their Israeli counterparts to clarify recent statements by the Israeli prime minister on Jerusalem. He said an agreement on Jerusalem is a key element to peace in the Middle East. Discussions, he said, also dealt with an Israeli proposal of an accelerated transfer of power for some public services in the occupied territories.

Also speaking to reporters last night was the chief Syrian delegate who said that the Israeli team had refused to commit Israel to a total withdrawal from the occupied Golan Heights.

Mr. Muwaffaq al-'Allaf said while the Israelis were demanding security and peace, they were refusing to abide by UN Security Council Resolution 242.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Flexibility in Face of 'U.S. Double Standards' Urged

PM2806161093 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
28 Jun 93 p13

[Khayrallah Khayrallah article: "U.S. Double Standards? Yes, That Is the Reality"]

[Text] The new U.S. raid on Iraq confirms one thing: that the change that began under President Clinton when he said that he was "not obsessed with the man," meaning President Saddam Husayn, did not fully materialize for at least two reasons. The first was that Clinton, who suffered a large drop in popularity, needed a foreign enemy of the Iraqi president's kind. The second was that, as usual, Saddam Husayn himself failed to read the foreign equations correctly. Instead of becoming flexible, he once again tried to test the U.S. intentions. So, was there a better place than Iraq for the United States to demonstrate its ability to regain its prestige? Was there anything better than reminding the Americans that Clinton was not less firm than Bush, for the U.S. President to gain some of the respect his people held for his predecessor?

At any rate, the blow dealt to Baghdad seems to be an American need much more than it was an Iraqi need. What the Iraqi people need these days is either a blow that would bring down the regime or an internal change that would pave the way for the establishment of a just regime that would restore some of the people's dignity. What happened on the night of Saturday to Sunday [26-27 June] might benefit the regime rather than harm it, at the expense of the people, who do not need more suffering.

But beyond the latest strike on Iraq and the talk about the regime benefiting from it, one could say that such benefit would only be temporary. What is significant is that the Iraqi leadership did not behave properly—in a way that would reflect a real intention to end the country's isolation. The Iraqi attitude is in contrast to another attitude of a different kind reflecting a serious attempt by another regime, namely the Libyan regime, to end its isolation. True, one cannot compare the Iraqi regime's crime of invading Kuwait with the mere charge that Libya was behind the Lockerbie incident, a charge that could have been aimed at others. What is noteworthy, however, is that on the eve of the African summit in Cairo, Libya got unexpected support from the states of the black continent, as though there was some room for exploiting the annoyance of many Third World states with the U.S. policy pursued by the Clinton administration, an indescribable policy about which one

can only say that it is difficult to take seriously the firmness it is trying to portray.

Despite all that, the best advice that can be given to an Arab state is that this is not the time to test the U.S. intentions or try to discover U.S. policy weaknesses. Flexibility is the slogan that should be raised by the Arabs, especially those targeted by Washington. U.S. double standards are not a major discovery. Talking about this is very nice and it appeals to the masses, but what is more important is to proceed on the premise of the existence of such double standards and to try to address that reality. That would be quite courageous. Political intelligence lies these days in trying to minimize the danger to the Arabs of the double standards in U.S. policy because seeking an end to that policy would be asking the impossible.

Islamic Affairs

Muslim World League Denies Supporting Terrorism

LD2906135593 Riyadh SPA in English 1229 GMT
29 Jun 93

[Text] Mecca, June 29, SPA—The Mecca-based Muslim World League (MWL) has categorically denied reports attempting to defame the league as a supporter of terrorism.

In a statement released here last night, the MWL secretary general described the MWL as an international Islamic organization representing all Muslim people and minorities worldwide and that it has been founded in 1962 in response to the desire of Muslim scholars to lead the call for Allah and to spread his word.

The MWL has won the world respect because it had refrained from interfering in the domestic affairs of states and from supporting rebel movements there, the statement said.

The statement said attempts to accuse and poke the names of some of the MWL personnel or its affiliated organizations in wrong practices, without any proof, were aimed at smearing this international Islamic body that seeks to boost cooperation among Muslims.

The statement said the deviation of any personnel of the MWL from the guidelines set by organization does not mean MWL support or backing of any wrongdoings.

The statement reiterated the MWL total rejection of terrorism and urged the media to check the accuracy of their reports and stop their attempts to defame this organization which is looking after the interests of Muslims worldwide.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat on Peace Talks, Conditions in Territories

NC2906222093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2045 GMT
29 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jun (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has said the peace talks have reached a dead end, but added that U.S. Secretary Warren Christopher promised good omens in a U.S. statement to be issued soon explaining the U.S. position. He added: I hope, while I speak here as a guest of President Hosni Mubarak and the brotherly Egyptian people, that the U.S. Administration will not surprise us the same way they surprised us in the ninth round of peace talks.

Speaking to the chairmen of the board of directors and the chief editors of the Egyptian papers here tonight, 'Arafat said: Some people thought Yitzhaq Rabin cared more about the peace process than Shamir. Rabin has indeed given signals and uttered beautiful remarks, but as far as substance is concerned, he has offered nothing, he added. He said May was the bloodiest month, during which 1,237 Palestinians were killed or wounded in the occupied territories and Israel deployed four Army divisions, equal to a third of the Israeli army, two in Gaza and two in the West Bank, in daily clashes. He hoped new relations with the Arab Gulf states would begin, noting that the Gulf crisis has placed the Palestinians in a difficult economic situation.

On relations between Fatah and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], the Palestinian president said: I have proposed to them not to enter minor election battles. When they raised weapons in the face of the masses in Gaza, I intervened to protect the Palestinians. He said Egyptian-Sudanese relations must not be disrupted, not even by a border dispute.

At the beginning of his remarks, the Palestinian president explained developments in the peace process. He said the negotiations have reached a dead end with the 10th round, of which there are only two days left. He said that according to the letter of invitation and the letter of assurances, it was supposed that the bilateral talks would not last over a year. He added: The bilateral talks were supposed to begin and end within a year, but 20 months have passed. Rabin, unfortunately, gave some signals and uttered beautiful remarks, but when it came to substance, he offered nothing, he added. For instance, Shamir's proposals are no different from Rabin's, except for the wording, although some words are exactly the same, he added.

President 'Arafat said the last draft plan submitted by the U.S. Administration at the last round of talks was a draft Palestinian-Israeli joint statement. He added: We were surprised to find that in a two-page document, the U.S. side took 60 percent of the text of the Israeli working paper, 35 percent U.S. ideas, and only one and a half lines from the Palestinian documents submitted. This is just an example, he added. He said that in the

ninth round of talks there was a U.S. attempt to draft a Palestinian-Israeli joint statement under U.S. supervision. He added: We were surprised the statement was discussed with Rabin personally 18 hours before it was presented to us; this is why we rejected the statement part and parcel and rejected the way we were treated. The U.S. cosponsor should not present us with a U.S. statement that is the essence of what it agreed upon with the Israeli side. We could accept discussion of a U.S. statement, whatever it may be, or an Israeli statement, regardless of what kind of document it is, but we can never accept a U.S. document that is basically a U.S.-Israeli one. The Israeli press later learned what we learned at the start and reported that the draft document submitted to the Palestinians was discussed with the Israelis 18 hours before it was presented. He said the most striking thing about the issue is that Jerusalem was excluded from the draft. He went on: Jerusalem remains, as Rabin described it yesterday, out of bounds and Israeli.

The Palestinian president added: I want to remind the U.S. cosponsor that it is the sponsor of the letter of assurances, the letter of invitation, and the resolutions binding us. We agreed that the terms of reference of the peace process are land for peace, Resolutions 242 and 338, Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories including holy Jerusalem, and recognition of the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people. He added: These are the terms of reference to which the U.S. and Israeli sides are committed. By discussing and excluding Jerusalem, he [Rabin] is evading the terms of reference and the implementation of Resolution 242, while he makes changes on the ground in Jerusalem. The settlements built in and outside it constitute a demographic change, violating what we agreed upon at the beginning of the negotiations. Then, we agreed no party would be allowed to introduce any change that could affect the outcome of the negotiations.

'Arafat said Rabin has besieged Jerusalem, sealed it, and prevented Christian sects from visiting the Church of the Holy Sepulcher at Easter—a long Christian tradition. He even prevented the Muslims from going to the al-Aqsa Mosque during the 'Id al-Adha. Noting that settlements are still being built, 'Arafat said: I would like to note that when Rabin visited Ismailia, he mentioned a very important point to President Mubarak, namely, that Resolution 242 applies to the occupied Palestinian territories, meaning the West Bank and Gaza, the same as it applies to the Golan. He added: But when the Israelis came to the negotiating table, they ignored what Rabin said in Ismailia.

On the unity of the Palestinian soil and handling this issue through negotiations, 'Arafat said: They offered us control over the affairs of the densely populated areas. This means an area like Nablus and Ramallah will be controlled by self-rule. What is between [words indistinct] are considered state territories [aradi dawlah]. And they divided these state territories in three—one for their

security, the second could be affiliated with Palestinian municipalities, and a third, which [words indistinct] to be controlled. This means there is no (?unity) of Palestinian soil.

'Arafat pointed out that the Palestinians were reluctant to go to the ninth round of talks, but, wanting to maintain the unity of the Arab position and seeing consensus at the Damascus meeting of the Arab foreign ministers concerned, we decided to go. We emerged from the ninth round with this U.S. document, which was a U.S. scandal to the extent that some U.S. quarters even apologized for the offer, which we did not accept, because it was out of context and a departure from impartiality. He stressed that the 10th round has achieved nothing, noting that the previous round was a round of talks with the U.S. side more than one between the Palestinian and Israeli sides.

The Palestinian president noted that frank consultations were held with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher about the past U.S. (?statements) and promises that have not been kept and Christopher's promise of good omens. He said the Palestinian side expects the U.S. position to be clarified in the next few days through a U.S. statement the content of which he did not know. He added: I speak here as a guest of President Husni Mubarak and the brotherly Egyptian people. I hope the U.S. Administration will not surprise us with something in the same way it surprised us during the ninth round of talks, thus compelling us to reject it. We do not want to be in this situation with the United States, and I hope the U.S. Administration will consider this and come up with something new at the end of this round.

He said May was the bloodiest month in the occupied territories, when 1,237 Palestinians were killed or wounded. He said there were fewer human casualties in Bosnia-Herzegovina than in Palestine for the same period, never mind the demolition of homes, the seizure of land, and the crimes against sacred Islamic and Christian sites and [word indistinct] economic situation in the occupied territories, including famine.

The Palestinian president added: I appealed to President Husni Mubarak as the OAU chairman to head a committee the form of which will be determined in the next few hours to help the Palestinian people promote a just and comprehensive peace, not surrender.

Asked by MENA about the true nature of the Israeli offer on early withdrawal from Gaza, 'Arafat said he had heard about this offer from several unofficial parties and received a letter from the Russian cosponsor on 1 June. The letter spoke of a dialogue initiated by a Russian delegation with officials in the Israeli Foreign Ministry, adding that the security and foreign relations committees of the Israeli Knesset are ready to withdraw from Gaza and "a large part of the West Bank," as the official letter put it. He added: When we talked about this 10 days ago to the Russian foreign minister, he said the offer is genuine and they [the Israelis] are concentrating on Gaza

first. I told him I refuse; Gaza does not come first. I cannot accept dividing the unity of Palestinian soil. But if there is going to be disengagement, it must be made to facilitate the negotiations and as a sign of goodwill, meaning a withdrawal under the supervision of the United Nations, or multinational forces, or forces from the conference cosponsors.

'Arafat said this must be done in Gaza and the West Bank, or at least in the main parts of the West Bank. He stated that the Israeli delegation says something away from the negotiating table, but at the table "there is nothing serious."

On relations between Fatah and Hamas, the Palestinian president said that when the intifadah broke out, Hamas was acting in public. Rabin gave it 700 licenses to build schools, societies, and clubs. He added: When a dispute arose between Hamas and Rabin, Rabin said he allowed them to operate so as to compete with the PLO. He added: I would like to emphasize here that nobody could compete with the PLO, which represents the identity of the Palestinian people. He said the PLO swept aside Hamas in 42 of 47 polling areas. He stressed that he prefers democratic dialogue to armed struggle with Hamas, but when they raised weapons in Gaza "the PLO intervened to protect the masses there."

On the Egyptian-Sudanese dispute, 'Arafat said nothing should spoil bilateral relations, not even a border dispute between the two countries, because bilateral ties are deep-rooted, historic, and cultural. He hoped good, brotherly results would soon be achieved.

On Palestinian relations with the Arab Gulf states, 'Arafat said: Our hand is extended to them and we are searching for new brotherly relations. He noted that the Gulf crisis has placed the Palestinian people in great economic difficulty.

Asked how ready the PLO is to set up a Palestinian state, 'Arafat said there are many Palestinian cadres and the Palestinian people depend a great deal on Egypt, adding that "the doors of President Mubarak and Egypt are wide open for us."

Fatah's al-Hasan Aide on Internal Issues, Talks
PM2906163193 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Jun 93 p5

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee Member Hani al-Hasan by Muhammad 'Ali al-Qulaybi in Tunis; date not given]

[Text] [Al-Qulaybi] According to some press reports, you were the cause of the tension at the recent meeting of Fatah's Central Committee, where 'Arafat called for your trial. What were the causes and motives behind that request?

[Al-Hasan] Fatah is still an effective movement, and we can see that in its internal activities and the positions taken on fateful and decisive issues.

Unity of views can only be found among dead people. Because Fatah is the biggest party responsible for the national cause and the fate of the Palestinian people, it is only natural to see blocs emerging in it and at its leadership meetings, with supporters and opponents.

Despite the lack of objectivity that sometimes occurs, the significant fact remains that there is a vital movement that debates and decides. It is a known fact that I, drawing on past experience, was one of those who detected early the dangers of the contents of the invitation to the Madrid conference, which could not ultimately fulfill the Palestinian people's national demands.

Matters recently reached a climax when Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin began killing scores of Palestinians, most of whom were Fatah members, and when the United States began to renege on the commitments made by former U.S. President George Bush. It was, therefore, necessary for Fatah's Central Committee to pause and discuss these problems and issues with complete frankness and clarity. These issues can be summed up as follows:

1. The future of the Palestinian national objective based on Israeli withdrawal from every inch of the territories occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem;
2. Rebuilding Palestinian national unity;
3. Intensifying Fatah's efforts and escalating the intifadah.

These three weapons are our means of winning the negotiation battle and of steering the peace process toward a balanced settlement and not a dismal defeat, such as the one being prepared for us by Rabin and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher for the coming phase.

Also, whenever Fatah's Central Committee meets, internal organizational issues are discussed. Some remarks were made about me. They were discussed one by one, and it was established that the information behind these stories was untrue.

[Al-Qulaybi] What were the main remarks?

[Al-Hasan] They were remarks about organizational matters. Some said that I had asked the Qatari Government to receive a Hamas delegation, a matter that I consider to be an organizational violation because we should not make efforts to strengthen another organization. The truth is that Qatar is a sovereign state that does not take orders from anyone.

We discussed that issue in detail until the brothers in Fatah were convinced that the sources of that report were wrong.

We also discussed some organizational matters pertaining to the occupied territories. I do not wish to go into details about that, but it became clear to everyone that I did not commit any organizational violation. To those who spread the rumor that there will be a split within the Fatah Movement, I say that this movement is united and capable of developing and rejuvenating itself. We, the people of Fatah who spent our lives building it up, are the ones who care most about it, and we fear that future developments might move toward containing and destroying it through the Rabin-Christopher plot against the Palestinian people and Fatah.

[Al-Qulaybi] But there were other remarks made about you by Yasir 'Arafat. You were, for instance, accused of leaking Fatah and leadership secrets to some Arab states. What do you say to that?

[Al-Hasan] That matter was not raised at all inside Fatah's Central Committee, but it was raised in an inaccurate report by the Political Studies Center in London and in articles written by an employee of a Palestinian newspaper from Nicosia for an Arab newspaper.

These two sources have noticeably been trying to undermine me in all their reports after the Madrid conference whenever Fatah was discussed. For example, they keep repeating that my position on the negotiations stems from the fact that I no longer have a role to play in the Palestinian kitchen or in Palestinian decisionmaking and that that is why I have taken this position opposed to the current negotiation process.

These people act as if they were gods judging people's intentions, when intentions are actually personal matters. What matters now is that there should be accountability for actions taken and statements made, and accountability for the negotiation results. I am proud to say that all the predictions I made in the call for a return to origins have, regrettably, been proved right.

Furthermore, who said that I was no longer involved in decisionmaking? We are all members of Fatah's Central Committee, and we all, without exception, form the main decisionmaking kitchen in the Palestinian arena. We have no time for such altercations.

[Al-Qulaybi] But you still have not answered my question. Why does 'Arafat want you to stand trial?

[Al-Hasan] I do not wish to go into details, but I believe that I have answered the question in general. As I said before, some people claim that I mediated with the Qatari Government on Hamas' behalf.

[Al-Qulaybi] But there are reasons that go much deeper than that. When 'Arafat's plane crashed in the Libyan desert, you were mentioned as one of the main candidates to succeed him. That upset many people. Do you have anything to add?

(Hani al-Hasan refused to answer. He merely smiled.)

[Al-Qulaybi] One of the main points 'Arafat holds against you is your close links with Hamas and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP].

[Al-Hasan] That is a point in my favor, not against me. I am proud of my good relations with all the Palestinian political forces except the Abu-Nidal faction and the Fatah dissidents (Abu-Musa and his group).

I very proudly emphasize that Hamas is a patriotic organization that emanates from the essence of the Palestinian people. The fact that we in Fatah have certain criticisms of it does not cancel out its patriotism and its role. The main point of disagreement between us and them is that they do not recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

During the talks they held in Sudan with the delegation headed by Salim al-Za'nun (Abu-al-Adib) in the presence of 'Arafat, they accepted the PLO as the moral home of all the Palestinian people. That was an important step that should be followed by another step, namely recognition of the PLO and operation within its frameworks. They have a right to ask us to draw up a clear national political criterion to be used as the basis for dealing with them and for judgment.

As regards the DFLP and brother Nayif Hawatimah, its secretary general, who can deny that it is one of the main factions of the PLO?

We have no right to deny anyone's struggle, role, and position. Dr. George Habash [secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine] holds a view on the political process that is different from that of the PLO. Does anyone have a right to deny his role and his patriotism? The first thing that democracy requires is that we listen to one another and that everyone believe that the views of other Palestinians are an important part of the whole truth. In our view, we should all seek the truth as a common denominator and a united front against the Israeli offensive.

[Al-Qulaybi] Financial and administrative excesses in the PLO were one of the issues causing controversy and tension at Central Committee meetings and at other meetings. What are your views on the matter?

[Al-Hasan] The PLO is nearing its 30th anniversary. That makes us acknowledge that, after 30 years, we should pause and examine all its bylaws with a view to drawing up new constitutional regulations to control many administrative and financial matters.

[Al-Qulaybi] Let us go back to the current peace negotiations. What is your assessment of these negotiations, and how do you judge the Palestinian performance in them?

[Al-Hasan] The Madrid logic is now beginning to take its full course. The United States has decided to play the part of full partner in the political process. That is actually a cover for the role of putting all the pressure on

the Palestinians to make them accept the U.S. views. Time will prove that the U.S. paper is neither impartial nor balanced.

There is currently a two-phased trend. In the first phase, the current round of negotiations will end with the issuance of a U.S. declaration stating the U.S. views on the issues under discussion. That will be followed by a tour of the region by Christopher to convince all parties of the U.S. views. In the second phase, a new round of negotiations will be held, and during that round an agreement of principles will be issued on all fronts so that all agreements may be signed simultaneously.

That is the U.S. plan. The time span might be shortened, and there may be some amendment in that the Palestinians might sign before the Arabs, but that is not the main issue.

The main question is about the future of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and when the Israelis will withdraw from every inch of the occupied territory, including Jerusalem.

The Israelis have sidetracked the negotiations by insisting that the West Bank is a disputed territory and not an occupied territory, and therefore there is a part of that territory they do not want to withdraw from. The Israelis back that up by saying that autonomy would be granted to four Palestinian population concentrations. Three are in the West Bank, and they are Nabulus, Hebron, and Ramallah. The fourth is the Gaza Strip.

These cantons are separated from one another by a well-conceived string of settlements. The problem is that the United States is beginning to adopt that position and say that the final solution will be determined in the second phase. The science of negotiations tells us that when you fail to usurp the rights of others, you resort to the partitioning of the land as a first step toward usurping these rights. That is what the Israelis are doing now. In the second phase, they want to annex the territories where the Palestinians do not have self-government, as well as Jerusalem and the land separating these three cantons in the West Bank.

The plan that Christopher will carry on his next tour of the Middle East will offer the resumption of dialogue with the PLO and will speak of a U.S. readiness to let some Israeli officials meet with PLO officials provided that, in return, the declaration of principles does not include Jerusalem and accepts the cantons idra, with some talk about a future U.S. position on the fate of the Palestinian territory. But there is a lesson that none should forget, namely that Bush made some promises but that, when he went, these promises disappeared with him. Clinton might make other promises, less warm than Bush's, but we all realize that Clinton will not be reelected. The United States has an economic problem that cannot be solved by ordinary means. It will take many presidential terms of office to solve it. That is why we in the Central Committee review the negotiation process stage by stage.

In the recent meetings, we concluded that the political process must be rectified. A committee was formed to conduct a comprehensive Palestinian national dialogue because all Palestinian forces must be utilized to study what Christopher will offer us and also to lay the joint foundations of a Palestinian concept capable of mobilizing and motivating the Palestinian people and also capable of resisting the unfair pressures aimed at blackmailing the Palestinian people through their political movement.

Moves to lay the grounds for that dialogue will begin within the PLO framework.

[Al-Qulaybi] How do you interpret the fact that you have been made chairman of that committee? Was it to compensate you for the harm caused you at the Central Committee's latest meeting or was it a victory for the line you advocate?

[Al-Hasan] (Overlooking that question) The decision to form that committee was not an easy one but I want to say that brother 'Arafat supported it very strongly after the heated round of political dialogue during the recent Central Committee meeting.

What matters is that Fatah, the mainstream organization, has decided to hold a dialogue with all the Palestinian political forces, to invite them to a comprehensive national dialogue to find a common denominator that would produce a political plan capable of facing the joint U.S.-Israeli move.

[Al-Qulaybi] I understand from what you say that the comprehensive national dialogue decisions would be binding.

[Al-Hasan] We should not anticipate events. The first condition for the dialogue is that it should be objective and ensure protection of the Palestinian national targets, with nobody imposing his views on the others in advance.

[Al-Qulaybi] Will that dialogue include Hamas?

[Al-Hasan] Comprehensive national dialogue means inviting all the patriotic political forces, and Hamas is a patriotic movement that emanates from the essence of the Palestinian people.

In addition to these forces, we will also invite a number of patriotic figures and the members of the Palestinian negotiating delegation. The dialogue is likely to be held next month in Tunis, although some parties have proposed other Arab capitals, such as Sanaa.

[Al-Qulaybi] Do you think there is a possibility of achieving something for the Palestinian people in the light of the current political balances?

[Al-Hasan] I believe that we have wasted much time without making any significant achievement. I do believe that the United States and Israel should give the

Palestinian people what is due to them, not that the Palestinians should give anyone any part of their territory or sovereignty.

The United States should stop trying to find a political solution that would calm down the Middle East situation. No such solution is possible unless the Palestinians are given an acceptable minimum of their national rights. None of the Arabs would sign any peace agreement before the Palestinians.

Therefore any plan based on escalating the intifadah in the occupied territory, ensuring unity of the Palestinian political forces, and mobilizing Arab support for our objective would enable us to impose a balanced settlement.

I studied the historic and important speech made by Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz to the pilgrims this year in which he said that the Palestinian cause is above mistakes and differences. It was a historic speech by the custodian of the two holy mosques.

Abu-Sharif Discusses Fatah, PLO's Financial Crisis

JN2906140893 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1940 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Interview with Bassam Abu-Sharif, adviser to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, by Salah Salamah, carried within the "Today's Guest" program; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Salamah] Brother Bassam Abu-Sharif: You know Palestinian concerns very well because you are a committed struggler and you have close personal ties with President Yasir 'Arafat. So, this evening we ask you to explain to us what is happening in Tunis within the Palestinian leadership. As you know, there were strong rumors during the Fatah Central Committee meetings that an opposition had emerged inside Fatah leadership objecting to the negotiations and to the leadership's policy toward organizational and financial issues. What were these rumors?

[Abu-Sharif] Palestinian democracy, brother Salah, is well known. It is an overt democracy that always appears during Palestine National Council [PNC] meetings and before the international and Arab press. The leadership's meetings are an example of the open democracy the Palestine National Council demonstrates. Each party has the right to express his full opinion, which is usually respected even if it is not approved. It is no secret that the political line, approved by the overwhelming majority of Palestinian parliamentarians, is opposed by known political forces, who voted against it at the Palestine National Council and who still vote against it in the PLO's executive bodies. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine object to this line. Other fronts also oppose it. The overwhelming majority, however,

have approved it and elected the Executive Committee to work according to that line. What is happening in Tunis is normal. The leadership meets from time to time to monitor what has been done and to make recommendations regarding future action. I can tell you that the current session was relatively tense because of the acute financial crisis the PLO is facing. This financial crisis is not a secret, either. The aid extended to the PLO, a large part of which was decided during the Baghdad summit, has been suspended over the past 38 months. Moreover, a number of states are still freezing Palestinian money, which Palestinians working there are paying to the PLO as a militant tax. The crisis has affected all walks of life and all individuals, including officials and ordinary people. We have to bear it and we have to tighten our belts to overcome it, since all efforts are directed toward our people and their institutions inside the occupied territories.

[Salamah] It is well known that the PLO is suffering from an acute financial crisis because Arabian Gulf states have suspended financial aid. But the opposition has begun to talk about misuse of money by the leadership. Will the current financial difficulties affect the organizational unity?

[Abu-Sharif] In fact, what has been said about the financial administration is very exaggerated. For example, in order to face suspension of aid, the PLO had to take measures to secure a permanent source of money to meet the requirements of militant action and to cover the budgets of PLO departments. Why, for example, has not the Palestine National Fund carried out its duty over the past 10 years to secure that income? Some may view this as mismanagement or shortsightedness in dealing with the PLO and its Arab relations. It is no secret, too, if we say there are some mistakes, for which people are held accountable. The main reason for the financial crisis is that the PLO's financial resources have rather dried up. We do not believe that this issue is unrelated to Washington's political decision.

[Salamah] Some say that the Fatah Movement should use its strategic financial reserves. Does Fatah really have a money reserve that could extricate the PLO from its financial difficulties?

[Abu-Sharif] Brother Salah, I work closely with Yasir 'Arafat, the president of the state of Palestine, but I am not of the Fatah Movement. I work for the PLO. However, I believe that the brothers in Fatah, who have their own financial resources and reserves, are exerting their utmost to solve part of the PLO financial problems.

[Salamah] Does the Palestinian leadership expect the Arab states to honor their promises to support the Palestinian struggle, especially at this fateful stage?

[Abu-Sharif] We hope that our Arab brothers, all of them, will not leave the Palestinian people to suffer from this financial problem. You are aware that the major PLO financial burden is not caused by the budgets of its departments and embassies abroad. The major burden is

our spending on our people in the occupied territory—educational institutions, universities, hospitals, families of martyrs and detainees, the social bodies, farmers, and workers. You are aware that Israel has closed the Gaza Strip and there are 200,000 Palestinian workers in Gaza Strip who are without work. They have no income and are starving. Therefore, we hope that our Arab brothers will help [word indistinct] our people inside the occupied territory and will carry the burden of the occupied territory organizations, especially the families of the martyrs and detainees, education, and hospitals in order to continue our march of struggle toward national independence.

[Salamah] My last question: Information that is available from Arab sources say that the Fatah opposition wing, represented according to these sources by Hani al-Hasan, Abu-Mahir Ghunaym, and Sakhr Habash—and although this wing continues to adhere to the historical formula of unity in diversity—is calling for stopping the bilateral negotiations which according to it will neither lead to Israeli withdrawal nor even to a genuine autonomy in the occupied territory. What is the leadership's evaluation of this political proposal? Does this wing have a real extension within the cadres and at the broad base?

[Abu-Sharif] Again, Brother Salah, the PLO includes all the Palestinian factions, figures, organizations, and trade unions. The vast majority in the Palestine National Council has approved the current PLO political program; namely, two states on Palestinian soil, negotiations for ending the Israeli occupation and implementing Resolutions 242 and 338, and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

This is the PLO program. There are those who oppose this program and they voted against it in the PNC. They continue to present their views during the Palestinian leadership meetings, whether through their own leaderships or within the PLO framework. Without going into names, we respect the opinion of everyone in the opposition. However, the approved program is the one followed by the PLO. Negotiations are continuing. This is a fierce battle of collision that may be more difficult than military battles. Patience and astuteness are the key to waging this battle.

[Salamah] Is it possible to conclude that the Palestinian option will always be to continue the peace process regardless of the widening opposition?

[Abu-Sharif] The PLO has not dropped any of its options. We have been following the peace option, the PLO program, since President Yasir 'Arafat launched his initiative on 13 December 1988 at the UN General Assembly meeting in Geneva, based on the PNC program. However, the PLO options are open. The intifadah is continuing and escalating, and we will continue to increase our resistance until the occupation is over. As President 'Arafat said, there are stages in the intifadah,

one stage comes after another, and we will continue to carry out these stages through to the end.

[Salamah] Thank you, Brother Basam Abu-Sharif for this frank discussion with Radio Monte Carlo.

[Abu-Sharif] Thank you.

Fatah Announces Release of 24 F-RC Members

NC2606212293 Paris AFP in English 2108 GMT
26 Jun 93

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, June 26 (AFP)—The PLO's mainstream group Fatah has set free 24 members of the rival Palestinian extremist Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) and plans to release 72 other militants soon, a spokesman said Saturday [26 June].

Two Egyptians, two Sudanese and a Saudi national were among the detainees released Friday and Saturday by Fatah in Lebanon and other countries, Fatah military commander in Lebanon, Munir al-Miqdah, told AFP in south Lebanon.

The FRC militants were accused by Fatah of carrying out sabotage, including bomb attacks, on the instructions of "enemy" forces in Lebanon's main Palestinian refugee camp of 'Ayn al-Hulwah, near Sidon, Maqdash said.

Their release was aimed as a "goodwill gesture," he added.

Around 40 people were killed in clashes between Abu Nidal's FRC group and the Palestine Liberation Organisation's Fatah over the past 10 months.

The FRC, which has links to Syria and Iran, is staunchly opposed to Arab-Israeli peace talks which the PLO supports.

The FRC, in a statement released in Beirut, meanwhile accused Fatah of "arresting and torturing hundreds of youths" to force them to confess to fake crimes.

Another 52 Reported Freed

NC2806124693 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in
Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] At the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp in Sidon this morning, Fatah released 52 detainees of Fatah Movement-the Revolutionary Council [F-RC]. Colonel Munir al-Miqdah, Fatah military official in Lebanon, held a news conference in which he announced the release of the 52 detainees. He noted that his group had kept 12 other detainees accused of local and international kidnappings.

DFLP Claims Responsibility for Ambush in Janin

JN2906132093 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200
GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] A Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] statement has said that the al-Najm al-Ahmar [Red Star] Forces, operating in the occupied territories, specifically the Martyr 'Arabi 'Assaf group last night laid an ambush for an Israeli military jeep in the area of Jalbun mountain in Janin. It detonated an explosive charge under the jeep, destroying it.

The DFLP affirmed it continues to carry out armed struggle in the occupied territories.

Editorial Questions U.S. Role in Talks After Attack

PM3006111693 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in
Arabic 29 Jun 93 p11

[Editorial: "U.S. Confusion and Arab Silence"]

[Text] Arab and foreign reactions to the recent U.S. raid on Iraq have varied, but noticeably only one Arab state, Kuwait, supported it while others opposed it or remained silent.

No one would disagree that the raid was a desperate attempt by U.S. President Bill Clinton to improve his image and save his declining popularity with the American electorate following the apparent failure of his economic policies.

The missile attack on the Iraqi intelligence headquarters did not have UN cover. The pretext used to justify it, namely the attempt to assassinate former President Bush during his visit to Kuwait, is a feeble and fabricated pretext. President Bush was not killed. Therefore, there is no cause for his government's vengeance, and the trials of the charged suspects are not over yet and the courts have not given their verdict yet.

President Clinton's flagrant aggression against Iraq and its people and territory neither combats nor destroys terrorism but rather provides logical justifications for escalating it against U.S. targets. He is surely well aware of that because the U.S. State Department has issued instructions to Americans throughout the world to be careful.

If some Arab regimes that have close links with the U.S. Administration and enjoy its protection and political and economic support have remained silent about that aggression and implicitly supported it, the position of the Arab people is totally different from that of their governments, which, in most cases, are not democratically elected and which are unpopular and lack respect and therefore do not represent their people's views and true feelings.

The Arab people are frustrated and angry. They can see that U.S. power is only used to humiliate them through

aggression against a fraternal Muslim Arab country, Iraq, using immoral and unjustified pretexts.

The question currently being repeatedly asked in various Arab circles is why has the United States not intervened in Bosnia-Herzegovina where scores of thousands have been killed or displaced and more than 30,000 women raped? Why does the United States not intervene to stop Zionist terrorism in the occupied Arab territories if it really cares about human rights and fighting terrorism?

In our view, President Clinton erred twice, first when he believed that by resorting to the same methods that brought down President Bush in the U.S. elections his popularity would rise, and second when he imagined that with such a strike he would weaken Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

The negative reaction of the world's press, and especially the British and French press, to the raid, and the demonstrations in some capitals indicate a decline, not a rise, in Clinton's popularity and a rise in Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's popularity with his people and the Arab peoples, as acknowledged by the Iraqi opposition, which is mostly financed by the U.S. Administration and its intelligence services.

The only advantage of that raid to us Arabs is that it embarrassed the so-called moderate Arab regimes that are resigned to serving U.S. interests in the region. It confirmed the feeling the Arab people had, that the United States cannot be their friend nor even an impartial intermediary between them and their enemies.

Baghdad Raid Said Sign of U.S. Arrogance, Hypocrisy

*JN3006095093 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1650 GMT 29 Jun 93*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brethren: Acting upon a poor, suspect, and even a false and fabricated accusation, the U.S. Administration adopted the fastest of its aggressive decisions and measures and immediately struck at Baghdad, the real capital of the Arabs, with cruise missiles, which do not distinguish between civilian and military targets and which are packed with death and destruction. Despite the existing facts and conclusive evidence confirming Israel's continued crimes against the Palestinian people, its ugly violation of the simplest human rights, and its constant assassination of rights and people, the U.S. Administration remains silent. The same applies to Bosnia's Serbs, who are continuing to commit the ugliest of crimes

against the Muslims there. The U.S. Administration finds no reason or pretext to take any measure against these crimes and their perpetrators. This is pure arrogance and aggression, a grudge against Arabism and Islam, and double standards. Such are the double standards and even the ugly hypocrisy, false policy, and baseless claims of the United States of America.

They are shelling Baghdad, and no one asks U.S. President Bill Clinton why they do not strike at the Bosnian Serbs and why they do not stand against the crimes of the Zionist occupiers. In my opinion, the comparison is inconceivable and the paradox ridiculous. Yes, the comparison is inconceivable and the paradox ridiculous. Baghdad is not the aggressor. Baghdad is a capital defending the sovereignty of its country and the right of its people and nation to live in freedom, dignity, honor, and prosperity. Baghdad, capital of Arab history and city of Arab glory and honor, and Baghdad, the besieged city, does not shell defenseless civilians nor does it fire at stone-throwing children who only want to see an end to the occupation of their land. Baghdad does not violate human rights by depriving people of their right to live on their land in freedom and [word indistinct]. Moreover, the Baghdad of history and civilization does not want anything from others other than respect for its legitimate right to build the best possible future for the sons of its people. [words indistinct] the United States backs and supports the Zionist occupation and crimes.

Why is Baghdad shelled [words indistinct] while the U.S. position on Bosnia's Serbs remains diluted, colorless, tasteless, and odorless except for the taste and smell of a grudge against all nations struggling for freedom? Why is Baghdad always shelled after midnight? In order to terrify children enjoying innocent dreams and children deprived of their medicine and milk [words indistinct]. Why is Baghdad always shelled after midnight? So that many good, innocent people might be killed while sleeping safely in their beds. What an ugly crime this one is! What barbarism the United States is pursuing! What an aggression and what (?a bullet)! We are not asking as much as we are trying to express the bitterness within our hearts toward all that is taking place. The matter reached its climax. Nevertheless, the Arabs continue to be silent and divided. What shall we say and why should we say anything? The aggression is clear and plain and injustice is clear and plain. The barbarians of the age do not want the voice of truth or the edifice of honor and dignity to rise. It is Baghdad's destiny to resist the will of the new barbarians so that the whole nation might rise. Glory to Baghdad, immortality to its good martyrs, shame and disgrace to the criminal killers, shame and disgrace to the American aggressors. God is great.

Algeria

National Liberation Front, Others Denounce U.S. Raid

LD3006084493 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic
0600 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In Algeria, the National Liberation Front, Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], and the National Organization for the Sons of Martyrs denounced the latest U.S. attack on Iraq and condemned the silence of the superpowers and UN Security Council on the event. They urged Washington to abandon its system of double standards and leave international organizations to work with impartiality.

Paris Embassy Denies Report on Visas for Intellectuals

LD3006065393 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic
0600 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Our embassy in Paris yesterday totally denied the report that stated that Redha Malek, member of the Higher State Council and foreign minister, had met French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua. The French television station France 3 issued that report and confirmed that an agreement was reached during that meeting over facilitating visas for Algerian intellectuals who wished to go to France. The embassy in France also denied another report by the same television station that said that negotiations were ongoing with the leaders of the dissolved Islamic Salvation Front.

Two Killed After Assassinating Policeman

LD2806223593 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic
2200 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Two terrorists were killed this morning after they assassinated a policeman in the Eucalyptus district, in an Algiers suburb, as he was leaving his home. The two terrorists exchanged fire with a unit from the National Gendarmerie which managed to seize two Klashnikov automatic pistols which the terrorists had acquired when they assassinated three policemen in the Harrach district of Algiers on 16 May.

Egypt

'Arafat Arranges 30 June al-Bashir-Mubarak Meeting

NC2906143193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jun (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has affirmed that President Husni Mubarak and Sudanese President 'Umar al-Bashir will meet to discuss every aspect of bilateral relations.

He said there are differences between them, but this does not mean things will get hostile. We should move to push things forward; there are many opportunities to discuss our differences.

The foreign minister reaffirmed that relations between Egypt and Sudan need no mediation.

The foreign minister noted that Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will arrive in Cairo soon to discuss the peace process and ways to strengthen the peace march and overcome obstacles to the peace negotiations.

[In a related, Cairo-dated report, Paris AFP in English at 1347 GMT on 29 June adds: "Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat has organized a meeting for Wednesday [30 June] between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and his Sudanese counterpart 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, the PLO said here Tuesday.

["The meeting will be held under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which is holding its summit in Cairo, Salman al-Harfi, the PLO adviser for Africa, said.

["Relations between the two countries have been strained in recent months, with Egypt accusing Sudan of taking in Egyptian Islamic extremists. The two are also at odds over the disputed frontier region of Hala'ib."]

Mubarak on Meeting With al-Bashir, Peace Talks

NC2906151493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1332 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has voiced the hope that Arab-African cooperation will continue to serve the interests of the Arab and African countries. In remarks to newsmen following meetings on the sidelines of the OAU summit today, President Mubarak said the Arab-African dialogue still needs to be boosted, adding that Arab conditions will take some time to stabilize.

President Mubarak explained that the summit has not discussed the Arab-African dialogue, indicating that an Arab-African meeting was held in 1977. On establishing a mechanism to resolve disputes in Africa peacefully, President Mubarak said the summit has not discussed the subject. We might discuss it this evening or tomorrow morning. We will see what most states agree upon.

Asked about the possibility of a meeting with Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council, on the sidelines of the OAU summit, President Mubarak said: We hope such a meeting will materialize.

Asked about efforts to solve Africa's economic problems, President Mubarak said: We ask God to help us to do something. We are trying everything in this direction.

Asked whether he met Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, President Mubarak said: I met him yesterday. 'Arafat comes to us any time. He is welcome.

Asked about the possibility of holding an Arab meeting among several states to push the peace process forward, President Mubarak said: Ministerial meetings are being held.

Asked about Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's announcement that Jerusalem is Israel's eternal capital, President Mubarak said: This is the nature of the talks, which will take some time.

Asked about the Lockerbie crisis between Libya and some Western states, President Mubarak said: There are UN resolutions. We only have to adhere to them as all states do. I don't believe there is a state that has not complied with the Security Council resolutions. He added: The process is complicated and will take time.

Mubarak Congratulates al-Bashir on Sudan National Day

NC2906170893 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1623 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has sent a cable of congratulations to Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council for National Salvation, on Sudan's independence anniversary.

Committee Concerned Over Renewed Gulf 'Tension'

NC2906112193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1031 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jun (MENA)—The People's Assembly's Foreign Relations Committee today issued a statement expressing concern over the prospects of renewed tension in the Gulf region. The committee said that it fears that the region may be drawn once again into a cycle of violence and counterviolence.

The committee reiterated its rejection of terror in all its forms. It called on the international committee and the UN Security Council to stand firmly against those who violate human rights and engage daily in the worst forms of terror and (?aggression) against the unarmed and Muslims [al-'uzzal wa al-muslimin] in Bosnia- Herzegovina.

The committee called for firm and full implementation of all UN Security Council resolutions and for the application of one set of standards to all similar issues everywhere. The committee expressed hope that the establishment of a new international order with a higher standards of justice and human rights would contribute to the termination of violence, extremism, and terror.

Report on Bomb Near Butrus-Ghali's Cairo Home Denied

NC2906155493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1448 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jun (MENA)—A responsible security source has denied a report in an Arab newspaper today that Egyptian security authorities foiled an attempt to detonate an explosive device in the area in which Dr. Butrus-Ghali's al-Jizah home is located. The source said the report is unfounded and that its publication serves no national cause and is only meant for sensationalism. The security source called on the press to ascertain the accuracy and validity of their reports before publication, especially at this important period for our national history, adding that this can be achieved by contacting the responsible security sources.

Security Sweeps Net Weapons, 'Extremist Elements'

NC2906161293 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1434 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jun (MENA)—Security authorities in the Governorates of al-Gharbiyah, al-Minufiyah, Kafr al-Shaykh, Port Sa'id, Marsa Matruh, Suhaj, Qina, and Sinai recently seized 562 firearms, including Goryunov machine guns, automatic and semi-automatic rifles, hunting rifles, and pistols, and 9,941 rounds of ammunition of various calibers. The large-scale security sweeps also netted 258 kg of TNT, 150 detonators, 58 hand grenades, 214 sticks of dynamite, 500 rocket-propelled grenades, and 160 knives. Five gangs specializing in robbing shops and houses were apprehended.

The security sweeps also led to the arrests of 60 religious extremist elements wanted by the State Security Intelligence Department. Some 76 people convicted of squandering public funds and 108 convicted on drug charges were also arrested.

Many fugitives were also arrested, including 117 criminals, 254 accused in juvenile cases, and 456 accused of supplying.

These security sweeps are part of the Interior Ministry's policy to confront the outlaws, seize unlicensed weapons, apprehend fugitives, tighten security control in crime-infested areas, and maintain a permanent security presence to uphold law and order.

Authorities Arrest 900 Following Recent Incidents

NC2906194993 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 23 Jun 93
p 1

[Report by Tharwat Shalabi]

[Text] Major General Usamah Dabbus, director of the Public Security Administration, has stated that the security authorities arrested 900 suspected terrorists following the recent terrorist incidents, adding that they are

being questioned by the State Security Investigation Department. He pointed out that the suspects had been detained at the order of the interior minister and when the evidence against them is put together, they will be referred within days to the prosecutor's office and then for trial. He noted that one of the suspects had been arrested at the scene of a terrorist incident, and the suspect admitted it.

Maj. Gen. Dabbus noted that investigations do not rule out the involvement of a foreign party, such as Iran or the Mosad, in the terrorist incidents. He added: Nobody is ruled out, whether from inside or from abroad, and we will reveal everything soon.

Writer Questioned on 'Revealing Military Secrets'

NC2906194193 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 23 Jun 93 pp 1, 8

[Report by Misbah Qutb]

[Text] The Military Public Prosecutor has summoned Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad, senior writer and prominent figure in the National Progressive Unionist Grouping, to question him in Case 19 of 1993, a military misdemeanor, for revealing military secrets. He was questioned on Sunday [20 June] morning about remarks attributed to him in the U.S. paper WALL STREET JOURNAL indicating that the Egyptian military establishment has reasons for dissatisfaction. In the interrogation, Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad noted that he could not precisely remember whether he met the writer of the report, whether the remarks were his exact words, and what the context was. In the meantime, he emphasized that the remarks could be interpreted differently, since it is agreed that there is legitimacy in the Egyptian Armed Forces' dissatisfaction with imposing arms control on Egypt and the Arab world and giving Israel free rein to possess all kinds of weapons, including nuclear weapons.

Libya

Al-Muntasir: 'Situation Still the Same' on Lockerbie

PM2906132193 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 Jun 93 p 4

[Interview with 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation, by unidentified correspondent in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] [AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Has Libya made new proposals for resolving the Lockerbie crisis, especially in view of the meeting to be held soon in Cairo between Butrus-Ghali and Colonel al-Qadhafi?

[Al-Muntasir] Some African states, first and foremost Ghana, have made important proposals—with the participation of Egypt and other states, that is. The most important of these proposals are to support Libya in the

crisis imposed on it at present, not to impose any further sanctions, to call on the Security Council to rescind Resolution 748, to secure a peaceful solution, and to conduct a fair trial in a neutral country.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Do you have new demands which will be submitted to the UN secretary general?

[Al-Muntasir] Our demands are clear, and we are completely willing to have the investigation and the trial of the suspects conducted in fair and impartial courts.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] The United States and Britain insist that the trial be conducted within the two countries' borders. What is your opinion?

[Al-Muntasir] True, that is the reality so far. But we are waiting to see what Dr. Butrus-Ghali will be bringing with him. However, I believe that this insistence will not last for long. We proposed in the past that the trial be conducted in several capitals, including those of Egypt, Malta, and Austria. But hitherto Britain and the United States have not agreed to any of them. The situation is still the same and there has been nothing new.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Can Libya be expected to agree to hand over the suspects to stand trial in Britain or the United States under certain conditions and guarantees?

[Al-Muntasir] I do not believe so, because there is nothing called a guarantee in law. And for our part, we are trying to display every flexibility with the United Nations and to respond to the demands of Britain, the United States, and France. And I will shortly make a European tour, especially of Spain, Italy, Germany, and Belgium, in a bid to find practical solutions to contain the crisis and close this file in the history of Libyan-Western relations.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] What stage has been reached in the mediation between Egypt and Sudan?

[Al-Muntasir] Libya does not interfere in the affairs of others. However, from time to time we try to ease the severity of the tension in relations. We are also eager for the African summit conference to be held in a healthy atmosphere and away from quarrels and disagreements.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Are there any further additions to the story of the Libyans' visit to Jerusalem and the negative effects resulting from it?

[Al-Muntasir] We have no stories or additions. It was no more than a "personal action" on that group's part, and the Libyan leadership has nothing to do with that subject.

Australia Decides To Restore Trade Relations

LD2906202293 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The Australian Government has decided to restore trade relations with the Great Jamahiriya. Australia froze trade with the Great Jamahiriya in 1982.

A communique issued by the Australian Government is quoted as saying that Australia made this decision because its economic interests were being damaged.

Portugal Follows 'Australia's Example'

LD3006115393 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1100 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Portugal is following Australia's example in restoring its trade ties with the Great Jamhriyah after feeling the damage caused to its economic interests. Government sources in Lisbon today announced that the Portugese Government had decided to restore its trade ties with the Great Jamahiriya, which were frozen in the late 1980's.

GCC Official Comments on Kuwaiti Oil Production*LD2606141793 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0605 GMT
26 Jun 93*

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 26 Jun (KUNA)— Shaykh Fahim Bin-Sultan al-Qasimi, secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], has stressed in an interview published here today the need for OPEC to give Kuwait a chance to determine its oil production.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-RA'Y AL-AMM he made clear that Kuwait has suffered losses that "the richest country in the world could not endure" as a result of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Therefore, Kuwait should be given the chance to reconstruct, build, and modernize the state, in addition to the chance to compensate for its losses.

On the Damascus Declaration, al-Qasimi stressed that this declaration gives a chance to achieve a possible Arab economic rapprochement, on the basis of which a gradual return to an Arab common market would be possible. Regarding a return to an Arab common market, the secretary general stipulated that neither Iraq nor any country which supported the aggression could return to the Arab common market.

Al-Qasimi pointed to the need to rally efforts among the Arab countries in the coming period. He said that the Damascus Declaration represents a main pivot for an Arab economic takeoff, toward the achievement of an Arab common market be achieved. [passage omitted]

Kuwait**Court Hears Prosecution Witness in Bush Case 28 Jun***PM3006092693 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in
Arabic 29 Jun 93 p 4*

[Nasir al-Mutayri report: "State Security Court in Kuwait Continues To Examine Attempt To Assassinate Bush"]

[Text] Kuwait—The Kuwaiti State Security Court yesterday continued the trial of 14 defendants accused of attempting to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush during his visit to Kuwait in April.

The State Security Court, which was presided over by Counselor Salah al-Fahd and included as members Muhammad Abu-Salib and Salim al-Khudayr, had held two hearings earlier in which it heard the testimonies of the first and second defendants, from whom it obtained clear confessions of their links with the Iraqi intelligence service.

The court yesterday heard the testimony of the prosecution witness in the case of the Iraqi terrorist network. He is the investigating officer who supervised the operation to arrest the defendants. The witness in the case, Colonel

'A. Sh., who is from the Kuwaiti State Security Investigation Office, said that, confronted with the information available to us, the first defendant Ra'd al-Asadi said that he had received from an Iraqi intelligence service man 10 explosive charges, two hand grenades, a machine gun, anti-armored-vehicle bombs, and a booby-trapped jeep. The man had asked him to give the second defendant a ride and guide him to Kuwait University to explode the vehicle to assassinate President Bush.

As for the first defendant himself, his task was to plant the explosive charges in stores and markets and choose these places himself to undermine security in Kuwait.

The witness, the investigating officer, added that defendant Ra'd al-Asadi admitted during interrogation that he had presented the criminal plan to the third and fourth defendants, Salim Rum al-Shamri and Bandar al-Shamri; he had consulted Iraqi intelligence service men over this, and they told him they had known the men and had had dealings with them before.

The witness went on to say that on the appointed day the first defendant drove his "Supervan" vehicle from al-'Ashshar to al-Zubayr. Then the first defendant, Ra'd al-Asadi, asked the second defendant to stop in a certain place, where he went to fetch the other defendants. The second defendant, Wali al-Ghazali, drove the "Super" vehicle, and the first defendant drove the jeep; they took the third and fourth defendants with them. They all headed with the two vehicles toward the Kuwaiti border, where they expected to find a vehicle awaiting them. But the vehicle was not there. They crossed the Kuwaiti border. On the way they removed a dirt barrier. Having entered Kuwaiti territory, they turned off the lights of both vehicles to avoid detection. They stopped at a border point and unloaded the alcoholic drinks and explosives. The first defendant told the two defendants who were in the "Supervan" to stay where they were. He gave them a pistol and a machine gun to defend themselves if confronted by anyone. Then the first, second, fourth, and 10th defendants left with the jeep. When they reached al-Jahrah town, defendant Jabbar Habib went to his brother-in-law. The others went to the Khitan area, where the house of defendant Badr Hiyad al-Shamri is. They did not find him there. His wife hosted them until her husband arrived. They told him that they had brought a quantity of alcoholic drinks, which were in the Kuwaiti desert. They told him that the Iraqi intelligence service had facilitated their exit from Iraq.

The second and fourth defendants stayed in defendant Badr's house. The first and second defendants and Badr al-Shamri headed for al-Salmi border, where they had left their "Supervan" vehicle loaded with alcoholic drinks. They did not find the vehicle. They found the alcoholic drinks where they had been left. So they transported them in defendant Badr Hiyad al-Shamri's vehicle. On their way back they saw the "Supervan" vehicle being driven by defendant 'Adil. They all headed for defendant Badr Jiyad al-Shamri's store in al-Sulaybiyah, where they unloaded the alcoholic drinks.

They parked the booby-trapped vehicle there. Defendant Ra'd al-Asadi took a small bag containing the arms and explosives.

The witness in the case, the investigating officer, went on to tell the court that when the Kuwaiti security authorities "raided the store, they found nothing except the vehicle and the alcoholic drinks. When the vehicle was searched, we saw a detonation battery similar to the battery we found with some explosives in land [as published]."

The State Security Court asked the witness about defendant Ra'd al-Asadi's link with the Iraqi intelligence service; he said that "he is one of the intelligence organ's elements, according to our secret sources inside Iraq which revealed the names of the third and fourth defendants before they entered Kuwait."

The investigation officer stressed to the court that the first defendant confessed, following his arrest, that he is an Iraqi intelligence service element. And that he had said that the jeep was booby-trapped with explosives in a very sophisticated technical way under the supervision of the Iraqi intelligence service, a task which required big capabilities available to the Iraqi intelligence service.

He said that explosives experts in Kuwait had searched the booby-trapped vehicle without realizing it was booby-trapped. They discovered it was booby-trapped only after the first defendant, Ra'd al-Asadi, confessed that it contained explosives. He showed the investigation officers where the explosives were concealed in the jeep. The Court decided to adjourn the examination of the case to another hearing.

Ruling Family Allegedly Involved in Financial Scandals

NC2506190793 Paris AFP in English 1718 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Kuwait City, June 25 (AFP)—Kuwaiti opposition MPs, who hold a majority of seats in parliament, are pressuring the government to bring to justice members of the ruling al-Sabah family for their alleged involvement in financial scandals.

On Tuesday [22 June], the opposition MPs called for the government's resignation if it failed to return to Kuwait the chief executives of the London-based Kuwait Investment Office (KIO): Shaykh Khalid Nasir al-Sabah and Fahd al-Muhammad al-Sabah as well as Fu'ad Ja'far.

The KIO holding company control the Torras group which spearheads Kuwaiti public investments in Spain, where losses have reached five billion dollars.

"The conflict between parliament and the government can worsen and threaten parliamentary life," a top government official, who declined to be named, told AFP on Friday.

"It's an explosive affair" because of the involvement of members from the al-Sabah family, he said.

An opposition MP described said the situation within the parliament as a "mine ready to explode at any time and threaten democracy in Kuwait."

The MP, who also refused to be named, deplored what he said was the "government's lack of cooperation" with parliament.

On Tuesday opposition MP Muhammad al-Murshid called for the formation of a new government if the current cabinet fails to bring the three back to Kuwait.

Parliamentary speaker Ahmad al-Sa'dun said the government should "rapidly take an adequate measure or resign" and charged that the cabinet should be held fully responsible for the theft of Kuwaiti funds.

Al-Sa'dun denounced the three KIO executives as "thieves".

"Saddam Husayn invaded Kuwait while this men robbed public funds," the speaker of parliament said.

Earlier this year the Kuwaiti authorities seized property belonging to the three KIO executives.

And in an effort to contain the crisis, Kuwaiti Finance Minister Nasir al-Ridan recently announced that Kuwait had asked Interpol, the international criminal police agency, to track down and arrest the three men.

Heir Apparent Rejects Call To Resign

PM2906141093 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 27 Jun 93 pp 1, 4

[Hamad al-Jasir report: "Shaykh Sa'ad: I Will Not Resign; Amir the Only One To Decide on Separating Heir Apparency and Government"]

[Excerpt] Kuwait—Kuwaiti Heir Apparent Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Sabah has rejected some deputies' demand for him to give up the premiership. In an emergency session held yesterday he stressed to the National Assembly (parliament) that "Sa'ad al-'Abdallah is not the kind of person to evade shouldering the responsibility. And he will never—at present or in the future—evade facing the realities."

Deputy Ahmad Nassar al-Shuray'an demanded during the session, which was devoted to completing the discussion of the Kuwaiti foreign investment issue, that the heir apparency should be separated from the premiership "to spare the heir apparent the embarrassment of political interpellation."

He said that the facts of what happened to investments in Spain suggest that "the prime minister should be questioned, because he is responsible for the disaster to these investments."

Al-Shuray'an also demanded that former finance ministers should be questioned. He said: "If we fail to question the person responsible for what happened in Spain, we must resign and tell his highness the amir that it is not possible to cooperate with the present government."

Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah replied: "Talk of separating the heir apparenacy and the premiership will not intimidate or frighten me, nor will it make me change my policy of serving the homeland and citizens. This talk is uttered in some government offices and by a very small number of citizens."

He added: "I am a soldier who pledged to God to serve Kuwait and the people of Kuwait, no matter how exhausting this is. This is my aim and mission in life, whether some people like or not."

Shaykh Sa'ad pointed out that "I cannot decide to separate the heir apparenacy and the premiership, nor can any deputy. It is up to his highness the country's amir. Nevertheless, I have no objection to conveying the National Assembly's wish in this connection to the person entitled to do so. I do not want some people to get the impression that I am after a post or position. That is not my aim in life. My aim is to serve my country, just as my fathers and grandfathers did in the past."

Shaykh Sa'ad emphasized his determination to "continue the cooperation between the government and the National Assembly." [passage omitted]

Amir Receives Messages From Turkish President, Fahd

LD2606122893 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Excerpts] At 1030 this morning, his highness the amir received Ozdem Sanberk, envoy of the Turkish president and Foreign Ministry under secretary, and the delegation accompanying him. He delivered to his highness, God safeguard him, a letter from His Excellency Turkish President Suleyman Demirel. [passage omitted]

At 1145 this morning his highness the amir, God safeguard him, also received Mr. Ibrahim al-Anqari, adviser to King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, monarch of the sister Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and custodian of the two holy mosques, who gave his highness a letter from his brother the custodian of the two holy mosques. [passage omitted]

Airlines Chief Reports on Company Profits

LD2906130093 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0942 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 29 Jun (KUNA)—Ahmad al-Mishari, chairman of the board of directors of the Kuwaiti airlines company, announced that the organization has realized profits of \$20 million in the 10 months of the financial year 1992/1993 compared to \$18 million in 1991/1992. He added in an exclusive statement to

KUNA that most of the profits were from carrying passengers, cargo, and unscheduled flights as well as the other services that are provided by the organization. [passage omitted]

He explained that the organization also participates in joint investment projects with the Gulf airlines companies. He gave as an example the Gulf hotels and kitchen schemes that provide services to the airlines of states and major stations like India, London, Cairo, and others. Al-Mishari said that the profits from the Kuwaiti airlines will be used chiefly to pay off financial commitments, particularly the loans which the organization is trying to obtain in the region of \$1,300 million to finance its fleet of new aircraft in the coming four years. [passage omitted]

Weapons' Thieves Arrested; Mine Clearing To Conclude

LD2906180493 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1602 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Jun (KUNA)—Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh 'Ali Salim al-Sabah announced today that the criminals who stole weapons and ammunition left behind by the Iraqi regime in the Pakistani, Egyptian and French military sectors have been arrested. He informed KUNA that the criminals have been referred to the competent authorities at the Interior Ministry, who will take the appropriate measures against them.

A Kuwaiti paper published a report yesterday claiming that large quantities of valuable equipment, weapons and ammunition left behind after the war had disappeared.

Shaykh 'Ali denied an assertion by a member of parliament that the budget earmarked for clearing mines is exhausted. He said the companies working on clearing the mines are expected to finish their work by the end of this year.

'Abdullah al-Nibari, member of parliament, speaking at an extraordinary session of the National Assembly last Saturday said that the budget allocated for mine clearing is exhausted and that the mines remain.

Oman

Accord Signed With India on Building Gas Pipeline

BK3006093293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] India and Oman have formally signed an agreement to build a \$4 billion gas pipeline from the Sultanate to the west coast of India. The 1,440 km pipeline will carry up to two billion cubic meters of gas a day. The agreement was signed at Muscat on Monday [28 June]. It

may be recalled that during his recent visit to Oman, the prime minister and the Omani leadership had agreed to set up the gas pipeline.

Saudi Arabia

Deputy Defense Minister Receives Qatari Delegation

LD2906142093 Riyadh SPA in English 1250 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Riyadh, June 29, SPA—Deputy Minister of Defence and Aviation Prince 'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz received here today Qatari Minister of State for Defence Affairs and Deputy Commander in Chief of the Qatari Armed Forces Major General Shaykh Hamad 'Abdallah Al Thani and his accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by Chief of the General Staff of the Saudi Armed Forces General Muhammad Salih al-Hamad.

United Arab Emirates

'Authorized Source' Says Israeli Boycott 'Still Stands'

JN2506180093 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1743 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Jun (WAKH)—The United Arab Emirates [UAE] has asserted that the boycott of Israel still stands, noting that this boycott is based on a unified Arab agreement and that its *raison d'être* still exists.

An authorized source at the UAE Foreign Ministry denied a report by the BBC yesterday evening, citing Israeli radio, that the UAE had decided to drop some elements of the boycott against Israel. The source said the UAE affirms the boycott against Israel still stands, since it is based on a unified Arab agreement, noting that its justifications have not disappeared.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Eritrea

JN2806172593 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 Jun (WAKH)—The United Arab Emirates and the State of Eritrea have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of today.

A statement issued in Abu Dhabi and Asmara today said the decision stems from a mutual desire to promote friendship and cooperation.

Yemen

PFLP's Habash Visits, Holds Meetings

Reviews Ties With YSP

JN2606122693 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] held a joint meeting today at the YSP Central Committee headquarters.

The YSP delegation was led by brother Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of its Central Committee's Secretariat, while the PFLP delegation was led by brother Dr. George Habash, the PFLP secretary general.

The two delegations reviewed relations between the YSP and the PFLP.

Meets GPC Secretary General

JN2706185193 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Brother 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, member of the Presidential Council and assistant secretary general of the General People's Congress [GPC], today received brother George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], currently visiting our country. They talked about relations between the brotherly Yemeni and Palestinian peoples and Arab and world developments. The meeting was attended by a number of brother officials.

Confers With Prime Minister

JN2806164593 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] At noon today, Prime Minister Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas received Dr. George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] who is currently visiting our country.

Discussions at the meeting dealt with fraternal bilateral relations between the Yemeni and Palestinian peoples, and developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

The prime minister stressed anew our country's steady position in support of the Palestinian people's struggle toward attaining self-determination and setting up the Palestinian independent state on the Palestinian national soil.

The meeting was attended by Dr. 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and secretary for political affairs of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party.

Received by House Speaker

JN2906154393 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Brother 'Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar, speaker of the House of Representatives, today received Dr. George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). Al-Ahmar reiterated to Habash that the Yemeni leadership, people, and political parties stand by the intifadah, the Palestinian forces' adherence to international legitimacy, and Palestinian statehood. Our country, he added, welcomes the call for a national Palestinian dialogue, which he said would serve to marshal the energies of the Palestinian people behind their cause.

For his part, brother George Habash extended his congratulations on the Republic of Yemen's democratic experience. He emphasized that high hopes were being pinned on Yemen and said that he was not being complimentary but stating a fact. Yemeni unity that was attained peacefully has been made stronger by the successful democratic experience. Our hopes, Habash added, were further strengthened following Yemen's successful general elections that should serve as a model for others in the region. Arabs and Muslims [words indistinct]. If the Arab and Muslim nations rise, they will be able to safeguard their interests and support their just Arab and Muslim causes, above all the Palestinian cause. He observed that, in the midst of the darkness engulfing the Arab world, there are three beacons: The intifadah, the Republic of Yemen, and the alliance grouping nationalist and democratic and Islamic forces—citing coordination between the PFLP and Hamas in Palestine, and the three-party government coalition in Yemen.

The meeting was attended by brother 'Ata al-Khatim, the officer in charge of political relations in the PFLP.

Deputy Premier Sees Moves on Kuwait as 'Hasty'

PM2806105093 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 25 Jun 93 p 4

[Interview with Brigadier General Mujahid Abu-Shawarib, deputy prime minister for "security and defense" affairs, by Jamil Hatmal in Paris; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Hatmal] Brother Brigadier General, you were not in Yemen during the formation of the Yemeni cabinet recently. Is this absence a stance on your part?

[Abu-Shawarib] My absence was for health reasons. I had to travel abroad. I sought the president's permission and traveled before the formation of the cabinet. Contacts continued between me and the president during the formation. There were consultations over many issues.

Whatever the cabinet's position, we have accepted the outcome, because we have established a principle with regard to democracy. We are very optimistic, optimistic about the future, which will be better than the past.

Although we are at the start of the new democratic experiment and process, the important thing is that we have established the principle, and the experiment has been conducted successfully, despite what happened in the process, which is natural and happens even in the old democracies. I believe that what happened is a unique experience as far as the Third World or the Arab world is concerned. [passage omitted]

[Hatmal] Brother Brigadier General, during the formation of the cabinet the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in Yemen submitted a memorandum to the Yemeni presidency, announcing its wish not to participate in the Yemeni Government. So are you participating in your personal capacity?

[Abu-Shawarib] As far as I know, no official memorandum was submitted by the Ba'th Party regarding nonparticipation. In fact the party agreed to participate. No agreement was reached on the terms contained in the letter. The three main parties did not agree on them. As for my position, I was informed by the president and others that I had been appointed deputy prime minister and that my jurisdiction would be specified later.

[Hatmal] After the formation of the cabinet we heard several statements from Yemeni officials in relation to opening a new page in relations with the Gulf, specifically Kuwait. What is your opinion?

[Abu-Shawarib] With regard to our relations with the Gulf and Saudi Arabia, our common interests prompt us to clear the air and restore relations to their normal status by virtue of our geographical and brotherly bonds. These various considerations prompt us to do that, even though I believe there was some haste with regard to the restoration of relations with Kuwait. Of course, restoring relations with brothers is required and prompted by Yemen's interests, but I believe that what happened was that the new Yemeni foreign minister praised the positive response he had received from his Kuwaiti opposite number. They agreed to meet, as I heard, since I was not involved. But I do not know what caused Kuwait to change its position, which was a surprise: They agree to meet but then refuse to discuss restoration of relations! That is their own business. However, I thought that it was too early for that.

[Hatmal] Were you surprised by the Kuwaiti position, or did you expect it?

[Abu-Shawarib] I expected it. I was not surprised by it.

[Hatmal] Does that mean that you have reservations about the "goodwill" expressed by some Yemeni officials?

[Abu-Shawarib] In my view, it was hasty. The matter needed patience and preparation. We saw how the hasty action and reaction achieved nothing. However, in principle, I am not opposed to anything that serves Yemen's interests, whether with Kuwait or any other country. [passage omitted]

Foreign Ministry on U.S. Airstrike in South 29 Jun
JN2906190993 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1852 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Jun (INA)—Two U.S. F-15 warplanes have attacked an Iraqi air defense battery position in the al-Basrah Governorate in southern Iraq.

A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry this evening said that an Iraqi fighter was injured by a missile fired by one of the two aircraft at the battery position at 1805 [1405 GMT] today.

In a statement to INA, the spokesman said that the air defense battery was not locked on when the two U.S. aircraft attacked its position.

The official Iraqi spokesman drew the attention of the international community to the U.S. Administration's arrogance, its irresponsible conduct toward world peoples, and its violation of international norms and charters. The spokesman added that this unjustified hostile act gives new proof of the hostile U.S. policy against Iraq.

The spokesman stressed that regardless of the fact that the battery was not locked on, Iraq and the international community have stressed and are stressing that the no-fly zone imposed by America and its allies is an illegal unilateral act that has nothing to do with the UN resolutions. The United Nations has confirmed this on several occasions. Arab and international bodies have also denounced and condemned this no-fly zone decision.

Radio Reports Iraqis Fire at Own Plane 29 Jun
NC2906124193 Paris AFP in English 1215 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Baghdad, June 29 (AFP)—Iraqi anti-aircraft gunners fired by mistake at one of their own planes on Tuesday [29 June], fearing an attack, two days after the U.S. missile attack on Baghdad, a radio station said.

Youth Radio, run by the president's son 'Udayy Husayn, said the incident took place "over prohibited zones" but it gave no further details. The fate of the plane was also unknown.

Baghdad residents said they heard a spurt of anti-aircraft fire early Tuesday. [passage omitted]

Al-Majid Observes Tactical Exercise, Gives Talk
JN3006091693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Al-Basrah, 30 Jun (INA)—Fighter Staff General 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, member of the Revolution Command Council and defense minister, has attended a tactical exercise with live ammunition codenamed "The Heroes' Assault." The exercise was carried out by the Wolf Formation-Hamid Forces.

At the beginning of the exercise, the commander of the Sa'd Forces gave a briefing on the progress of the exercise, the units participating, and the aspired objectives. Afterward, two conferences on commands and coordination were held. Participants set out their duties and plans to implement them with minimum losses.

In blustery, dusty, and extremely hot weather conditions with poor visibility, the grandsons of Sa'd Bin-Abi-Waqqas [early Muslim army commander] performed the exercise with high morale and great zeal, thus reflecting their high level of physical fitness and good training on war stratagems in severe weather conditions to achieve the set objectives.

The gallant men of the armored units and mechanized infantry troops distinguished themselves in this exercise in terms of cooperation and providing fire support to pound the enemy positions.

At the end of the exercise, fighter Staff Gen. 'Ali Hasan al-Majid addressed the attending commanders and corps directors. He said: In this extremely dusty and hot weather, we are psychologically and practically close to the conditions of a real battle. This is in implementation of leader President Saddam Husayn's commands that we conduct exercises under and adapt to all weather conditions so as to implement our duties.

He added: You men should do more training so as to elevate the Army of Iraq to become the army of the Arab nation and to defeat all this Zionist onslaught, which not only targets Iraq, but the entire Arab nation. He said: Because we are living under the circumstances of an unjust blockade, we should learn more and make the best use of all available resources so as to break the blockade and defeat all our enemies.

The fighter defense minister praised the efforts of the command of the heroic Sa'd forces, which had played an honorable military role along with other heroic Iraqi divisions during the glorious Saddam's al-Qadisiyah battle [war with Iran] and the immortal Mother of Battles.

The exercise was attended by fighters Army Chief of Staff General Iyad Futayyih al-Rawi, a number of aides, the commander of the al-Qadisiyah Forces, the secretary of the al-Qadisiyah military branch of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the directors of combat and services corps, and the elite of the Al-Qadisiyah Forces fighters.

Ba'th Party Issues Statement on 'Aggression' 29 Jun
JN2906134093 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] of statement by National Command of Arab Socialist Ba'th Party on 29 June; place not given]

[Text] This is the third U.S. act of aggression against Iraq—the standard bearer of Arab jihad. The aggression took the form of international terror unprecedented in

this century. The attack took place under the most turbulent and tense circumstances in a world fraught with regional disputes and major conflicts.

In each of these attacks, premeditated malicious intentions were betrayed by the incompatibility of the nature of the aggression and the justifications advanced for it. The sinful aggressor fabricated pretexts and sought the cover of the UN Charter to conceal the truth of its hostile conduct against Iraq and the Arab nation. Prompted by a nasty Zionist mentality, these barbaric attacks were self-evidently contrived to advance objectives and interests detrimental to Iraq's rights and at odds with the UN Charter, besides betraying hostility and vindictiveness toward Arabism and Islam.

This inconsistency between Washington's protestations of concern for human rights and its actual barbaric behavior—unbecoming for any civilized nation in this age—was most evident in this latest sinful aggression, exposing America's criminal bent that sets no store by either temporal or divine laws.

The victims of this criminal aggression—women, children, and men of art and symbols of love for a homeland that seeks a civilized future for mankind—are bound to question the intellect of humanity and appeal to the conscience of humanity. They warn about the danger that threatens the future of a mankind that has become a virtual toy in the hands of the reckless, criminal American policy that refuses to commit itself to rational and moral standards.

The U.S. Administration is making a grievous mistake if it imagines it can bully the peoples of the world, least of all the mujahid heroic people of Iraq who can boast an ancient tradition, or the Arab, Muslim, and Third World masses. Nor will the U.S. Administration manage to extinguish the yearning of these masses for liberation from backwardness, subordination, and division, or dampen their enthusiasm to exercise their right to defend their dignity and their most basic rights and humanity.

The American-Zionist alliance that is determined to obstruct Iraq's renaissance is only deluding itself if it thinks that plots and barbaric acts of aggression can disrupt the Arab model of liberation, renaissance, and unity. It is now obvious that this latest act of aggression on Iraq sought to undermine and snuff out the fighting and militant spirit of Arabs and Muslims, and provides yet another piece of evidence that there is a conspiracy to liquidate the Palestinian cause.

Cloaked in flimsy excuses, the disposition of the United States to use brute force to handle crises, to dominate others, and to revive old-fashioned colonialism in Palestine, Somalia, and the former Yugoslavia is bound to fail. Foolish policies, such as seen in the recurring attacks on Iraq, will certainly not fare any better. Criminality and recklessness have come to typify the U.S. policies under which Iraq is blockaded, its people tortured, and

their dignity slighted—a people that launched their drive for national renewal, depending on their own resources, blood, brains and efforts.

Arabs and Muslims and free souls around the world: Verbal protests and condemnation are no longer adequate to meet the challenges we face. We must embark on joint, comprehensive moves if we are to ride this wave that harbors an ill will toward Arabism and Islam and the values of this age and civilization. If the policies of international terror and the ongoing sanctions and aggression against Iraq are allowed to go unchallenged, security in this part of the world will be at stake, and the world will lapse into the law of the jungle, and the logic of law and order will give way to the logic of brute force and tutelage, without any reference to the interests of the nations, including the American people themselves.

Where is the U.S. Administration headed? Where is it dragging the world along with it? What is the U.S. Administration doing to international relations, people's rights, and humanity? Various political and trade union forces and other bodies and intellectual and political figures in the Arab and Muslim worlds and elsewhere must rally to the support of justice and humanity by speaking out against this grisly crime, this lunacy, and this chain of savage episodes that jeopardizes human values and the future of mankind.

Let this aggression—whose consequences Iraq has had to endure in terms of the blood of its heroic people—be a positive turning point for Arab, Islamic, and world solidarity in order to counter the injustices and baseness of the United States. Let it be a lesson to enhance steadfastness in the face of the American-Zionist conspiracy against international values and relations, the destiny of nations and their national and human rights.

How can the U.S. Administration justify to the world its recurring acts of aggression and its hatred of Iraq and the Arab nation, as well as a sustained embargo of a civilized country? Turning the language of brute, tyrannical force into absolute law has sorted out the forces of baseness from the forces of renewal in the world. Iraq and its people will be credited by history for this sorting out.

Mujahid Iraq and its Arab nation, ever armed with faith and the spirit of the message, are bound to emerge victorious over the U.S. aggression targeting the Arab renewal represented by the people, the revolution, and the historic leadership of Iraq. Arabism, armed with the renewing message of Islam, is bound to triumph.

'Aziz Discusses 'Aggression' With Jordan Party Envoys

JN2906153293 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1435 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Jun (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, official in charge of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Arab

Socialist Ba'th Party, received the Jordanian People's Democratic Party delegation led by its Secretary General Taysir al-Zibiri.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral relations and means of promoting them in the interest of the two fraternal peoples and in a way that bolsters Arab brotherhood and solidarity.

Tariq 'Aziz stressed the importance of meetings and exchanging visits in order to bring Arab parties closer together. He said: The plotting and aggression against Iraq are aimed at breaking Iraq's will and instilling despair in the Arab nation. However, Iraq's steadfastness and its people's creative genius, which reconstructed what was destroyed by the aggressors, have foiled enemy schemes.

The secretary general of the Jordanian People's Democratic Party expressed his party's solidarity with Iraq and its leadership in their confrontation of the aggressors. He also called for the immediate lifting of the blockade imposed on the Iraqi people.

The Jordanian People's Democratic Party delegation denounced the recent treacherous and criminal action and called on world peoples to denounce and condemn the criminal killers.

Attending the meeting were Dr. 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Hashimi, director of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, member of the Bureau and secretary general of the Arab Popular Forces Conference.

'Aziz on Pre-Strike Expectations of U.S. Policy

LD2706135793 Rome RAI Due Television Network in Italian 1100 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz by Roberto Fontolan "a few weeks ago" in Iraq; 'Aziz speaks in English with superimposed Italian translation—recorded]

[Text] [Fontolan] What do you expect from President Clinton, if you expect anything at all, of course.

['Aziz] It is difficult to expect anything from the U.S. Administration. This does not apply to us alone, but to others as well. You are aware how complex U.S. domestic policy is. What we want is for this U.S. Administration to reconsider the policy of its predecessors, Bush's policy. That was a hostile policy, a policy which was hostile not only as far as Iraq was considered. It was an incorrect policy because it was designed to destabilize our entire area. Indeed, we are not the only victims of that policy. The whole area is now less stable and is now in a situation worse than before. Do the new U.S. leaders follow the same policy: provoke, as the others did, destabilization, and chaos? Inflict new suffering? If they are intelligent enough to realize the failures committed by those who preceded them, that

would be useful for us, for this area and, in the long run, for the United States, as well. In this area, if they do not change Bush's policy, sooner or later the Americans will have to face problems.

To come back to the terms implicit in your question: We do not expect any changes from the Americans, but we hope so. If we must talk about our expectations we would address them rather to the Europeans. Their relations in the area have not been compromised, and they also should ask the Americans to change the incorrect policies of George Bush.

National Assembly Writes Letters About 'U.S. Aggression'

JN2806133693 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] The Iraqi National Assembly has appealed to the UN secretary general and the Arab League secretary general, as well as the world parliaments to denounce the new terrorist and treacherous U.S. aggression against the Iraqi people. It also demanded immediate intervention to halt the terrorist and criminal operations led by the United States against Iraq.

In letters written to the international and regional organizations, as well as the world parliaments today, the Assembly explained the truth and objectives of the new aggressive U.S. action against Iraq. It also explained the obvious breach of both the UN Charter and the international law, as well as the flagrant violation of human rights—rights the United States says it defends.

Kurdish Party Denounces U.S. 'New Terrorist Crime'

JN2906140093 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Jun (INA)—The Political Bureau of the Kurdistan Revolutionary Party has denounced the new terrorist crime perpetrated by the U.S. Administration through firing its missiles at residential areas in Baghdad last Sunday.

In an appeal to the Arab and international parties and revolutionary forces, human rights organizations, and Arab and international trade unions and popular organizations, the party said: This bloody crime constitutes a blatant violation of human rights conventions and international charters, and a clear indifference to the international community and UN resolutions.

In its appeal, the Political Bureau of the Kurdistan Revolutionary Party called on the international community to shoulder its humanitarian, moral, and legal responsibilities in full and to condemn and denounce this cowardly criminal act and to prevent its recurrence.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Condemns Missile Attack*JN2906134593 Baghdad INA in English 1320 GMT 29 Jun 93*

[Text] Baghdad, June 29. INA—Sudan has expressed its anger and condemnation over the U.S. missile attack on Baghdad.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Husayn Sulayman Abu-Salih said in a message to Foreign Minister Mr Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf that the aggression reflected the evil nature of international neocolonialism and the immoral behaviour of those who backed it.

The message stressed the Sudanese people's support for Iraq against the conspiracies that targetted the nation as a whole.

It urged all peoples of the world to confront the U.S. criminal action and prevent America from using international legitimacy to excuse its successive aggressions on Iraq.

Papers Denounce U.S. 'Cowardly Aggression' 29 Jun*JN2906122693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 29 Jun 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Jun (INA)—Iraqi papers today assert that the United States is a colonialist, bloodthirsty state seeking to control the world, prejudicing the independence and freedom of other nations.

The papers are unanimous in their editorials, analyses, and interviews that the recent U.S. aggression against Iraq is an official declaration that the United States is above international law and above the sovereignty of all nations, and that it is deterred only its own interests.

The papers point out that the United States unmasked its ugly face when it used the heavy club to exercise its influence.

The papers say the cowardly aggression against residential quarters and civilian targets reflects the fact that U.S. brute force has been totally frustrated as a result of Iraq's steadfastness and the ability of its unparalleled leadership to enhance its own capabilities, depending on the bounties of the land, the hands of the people, and their creative minds.

The papers add that the United States was angry to see Somalia—a country with limited resources and well-known circumstances—follow Iraq's example, utter a clear "no", and expose the reality of Operation Restore Hope, despite all the falsification that accompanied it.

Having seen others adopt a proud position rejecting the law of force, the United States was dismayed to see more people opposing its evil approach. However, the United States still refuses to heed the voice of reason and learn from the lessons of history.

The papers affirm that throughout its long history, Iraq has never submitted to any tyrannical power.

AL-QADISIYAH, speaking for the Defense Ministry, says: The conduct of the former and current U.S. Administrations against our country and people proves the Iraq complex is being drummed daily into the heads of U.S. politicians, under the influence of world Zionism.

The claim by some U.S. politicians that the aggression against Iraq could deliver America from the Vietnam complex proved false.

The Iraq complex has been added to the Vietnam complex, especially after Iraq launched a counterattack represented in its comprehensive reconstruction drive.

The paper adds that U.S. aggressiveness reflects the hidden grudge that surfaced after the failure of the United States and the so-called new world order, which has remained elusive despite the force used by the United States in more than one place.

The fact that Iraq has survived political upheavals despite aggression and blockade has encouraged the entire world to reject U.S. hegemony. This is becoming a serious complex driving the U.S. Administration, under Zionist pressure, to yield and repeat the aggression.

Clinton, who followed in Bush's footsteps, thought that aggression against Iraq could be a distinguished achievement in his record.

Clinton was mistaken twice: First, when he adopted the selfsame vindictive approach that led Bush to the abyss, and that may lead him to the same fate, and, second, when he thought that this could cover up for his weakness.

The paper adds that through the aggression against Iraq, Clinton seeks to distract the attention of the U.S. public from their economic situation, which got worse after he recently imposed more taxes on them.

The recent aggression, the paper affirms, will not weaken Iraq. If Clinton tries to use this approach again, his failure will be confirmed more and more.

AL-IRAQ says that through its recent aggression against Iraq, the Clinton administration has provided material evidence that the United States is the only country with an unprecedented record of violating all international laws and norms.

In its editorial, the paper affirms that the United States tops the list of states sponsoring, promoting, and practicing terrorism worldwide.

The United States has used flimsy, stupid pretexts to justify its aggression, citing a fabricated issue that can fool no one as a cover to hide the real objectives behind the firing of missiles at Baghdad to kill innocent citizens and bring their homes down on top of them.

AL-'IRAQ cites military observers as saying that the declared pretexts of the Clinton administration were naive, and that the question has to do with the tough domestic situation of the U.S. president.

The paper adds that the political circle around Clinton wanted to restore balance to this administration following a series of utter failures in redressing domestic problems and weaseling out of election promises.

The paper adds that a thorough scrutiny of the overall situation would reveal all the facts the Clinton administration tried to hide by using intrigues and shameful lies to stay out of the limelight and avoid exposing its aggressive aims that conflict with the UN Charter and the right of all nations to peace, stability, and progress.

The paper affirms the aggression was primarily motivated by the fact that Iraq is still strong, patient, steadfast, and stable under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn, despite the comprehensive blockade and all the chapters of aggression and conspiracies launched against Iraq in the past three years.

The paper concludes that by its treacherous action against Iraq, the U.S. Administration sought to reassure its stooges in the region, especially Saudi Arabia and the rulers of Kuwait, because their domestic situation is constantly on the decline and because popular anger against them has escalated due to their espousal of the U.S.-Zionist scheme.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says: Having seen the deterioration and weakness of the United States abroad after its failure with Iraq—which maintained its steadfastness and continued its reconstruction effort—and in Somalia, which turned into a real pain in the neck, Clinton launched his cowardly aggression in a bid to cover up his frustration.

A weak and shaky Clinton is now strongly influenced by several lobbies in the United States, especially the Zionist lobby.

The paper affirms Clinton's confusion indicates that the United States is completely convinced that the next months will pose serious problems all over the world, since many governments and nations no longer tolerate U.S. disregard and violation of their sovereignty.

The paper asserts that the uprising of liberation against the United States is brewing. The world will soon witness more than one uprising against U.S. colonialism.

The Clinton administration's aggressiveness confirms that we are going to witness more developments and uprisings in a world aspiring for freedom, independence, and sovereignty. Nations always achieve victory and do away with colonialist emperors, the paper says.

BABIL writes: The ugly crime of shaky Clinton has shown that he is just another ordinary criminal and a fool driven by the Zionist lobby to commit this act, outside the traditional framework of the collective U.S. aggressive, criminal mentality.

The U.S. mentality usually prepares for its crimes by providing a huge media cover, using all its distortions and fabrications, in addition to a cover from the United Nations and the Security Council.

Clinton did not hesitate to implement what his masters planned and then cite flimsy pretexts for an ugly action in the middle of the night against innocent people.

The reasons cited by Clinton for his aggression against Baghdad do not justify this crime, nor is it justified by any law or legislation.

Stress U.S. 'Has Gone Too Far'

JN3006110793 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0752 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Jun (INA)—The Iraqi newspapers continue to strongly condemn and denounce the new U.S. aggression against Iraq and its steadfast people.

They agree that this aggression is the culmination of the U.S. disdain for international laws and norms and for the Security Council itself.

The newspapers stress that this aggression provides further evidence that the United States has gone too far in its strange and disgraceful behavior to the extent that it no longer cares about obtaining a cover from the Security Council to justify its terroristic crime against steadfast and patient Iraq.

AL-THAWRAH says the revival of the openly and flagrantly aggressive policy against Iraq constitutes official terrorism and a U.S. message of its desire to control the fate of the world. It also represents a club that is raised in the face of anyone who refuses to bow to the United States. The aggression also aims to reassure the U.S. agents.

The paper adds that the renewal of the flagrant aggression is aimed to restore prestige and force to America's weak image—which is as weak as its president—and after the U.S. failure in several tests, and the disclosure of its double-standard policy.

AL-'IRAQ says America, which has been eager to use the Security Council and its resolutions to entrench its brute force, has concluded that the cover which provided legitimacy to its aggressive and terrorist practices, is no longer important. This was evident during the treacherous crime against unarmed civilians in Baghdad when the United States sent its missiles to destroy houses and kill and injure their inhabitants.

It says the U.S. Administration has given itself the authority to trespass the Security Council and its role in a dangerous issue that touches on the security and sovereignty of a UN member state. It committed a blatant and terrorist aggression against Iraq, then requested a Security Council meeting to present a report

on its aggression, unconcerned about international law. The paper asks: What dangerous behavior is this, and where is legitimacy?

It calls on the concerned parties in the Security Council to reconsider their positions toward the dangerous and sabotaging role the United States is playing within the United Nations, and to confront this American behavior that interprets international laws according to its own interests and aggressive policies.

AL-'IRAQ asks: Isn't it dangerous and outrageous that America proclaims itself a trustee for the world and its peoples, raises the stick to threaten anyone who resists its imperialist policies, and threatens to kill any honorable voice that defends justice, rightness, and real legitimacy amid the blatant absence of the Security Council's role and duty.

The paper says Iraq—through its firmness and courage—has opened the door for humanity to say its decisive word on the injustice against nations that America practices. It is hoped that Iraq's firmness will benefit those who were terrorized by America and chose to remain silent—rather than speaking out on what is right—and decided to be false witnesses to the ugly U.S. role.

Under the title of "Had Our Missiles Been With Us" AL-JUMHURIYAH says the new aggression against Iraq is the peak of the U.S. Administration's disdain for the fate of civilians and peoples. America has launched a new phase that is different from the positions to which the world public opinion became accustomed—these positions which used to take into consideration several regional and international calculations.

It asks: Had the al-Husayn, al-'Abbas, al-Hijarah, and other missiles still been there, would the weak and vacillating U.S. President Bill Clinton dare to attack our cities with missiles, and with such brutality? The paper stresses that the answer is no. America would have thought tens of times before deciding on a missile attack against civilians.

Poll Says 50 Percent Believe Patience Proper Response

JN2906203393 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 29 Jun 93

[All figures as received]

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Jun (INA)—Fifty percent of people, representing a random sample of 502 citizens, interviewed in an opinion poll over the new U.S. aggression, called for patience and steadfastness as a way to respond to the aggression, while 29.6 percent, representing 295 citizens of this sample—which included 1,000 citizens from Baghdad and six governorates in northern, southern, and central Iraq—called for striking U.S. interests as a way to respond to the missile attack launched against Baghdad at dawn on 27 June.

The poll, conducted by the Culture and Information Ministry's Data Center, shows that 194 citizens, representing 19 percent of the sample, said they believe popular peaceful protests will be a sufficient answer to the aggression, while 19 citizens, representing 1.9 percent of the sample, said they believe the U.S. conditions should be accepted.

The poll shows that 893 citizens, representing 89 percent of the polled citizens, do not believe the U.S. allegations about the Iraqi attempt to assassinate Bush, while only 16 citizens, representing 1.6 percent of the sample, said they believe them. Meanwhile, 91 citizens refused to answer the question.

The poll, conducted over the phone with citizens whose numbers were chosen at random from the telephone directory, and through random face-to-face interviews, included males and females from various social classes. They included 626 male and 374 female citizens from Baghdad, Ninawa in northern Iraq, al-Basrah and Maysan in southern Iraq, and Babil, al-Najaf, and Karbala' in central Iraq.

Butrus-Ghali Cited on Upcoming Oil Sale Negotiations

JN3006055693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2122 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Geneva, 29 Jun (INA)—The United Nations announced today that the Iraqi-UN negotiations on the sale of limited quantities of Iraqi oil will resume in New York on 7 July.

In a statement issued in Geneva today, UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali voiced confidence that the recent UN action against Iraq will not constitute an obstacle to the coming negotiations.

Butrus-Ghali noted that a large Iraqi delegation will arrive in New York for these negotiations.

Letter to UN Protests Dropping of Allied Flares

JN2606090593 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0657 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] United Nations, 26 Jun (INA)—The Iraqi mission to the United Nations has distributed a letter noting that agricultural areas in Iraq have been damaged as a result of continued dropping of flares by hostile U.S. aircraft on farms and civilian locations.

The letter, which was distributed here yesterday as an official UN Security Council document, says that the hostile aircraft dropped flares on several locations in Iraq in May and June.

An INA correspondent in New York said that the letter explains that the hostile planes dropped three flares on the al-Kuwayr village in Ninawa Governorate on 12

June. On 24 May, flares were dropped on agricultural lands in al-Jaghajfiah [placename as received] in al-Iskandariyah subdistrict.

The letter adds that on 5, 8, and 13 June, the U.S. aircraft dropped flares on agricultural areas in the Tal Kayf district in Ninawa Governorate, the al-Rumayd marsh in Dhi Qar Governorate and the Khuwaitla and Shahrazad villages in Ninawa Governorate.

The Iraqi mission said that the U.S. aircraft's hostile actions have resulted in setting 140 donums of barley and 260 donums of wheat ablaze, as well as damages estimated at over 500,000 Iraqi dinars.

The mission explained that the coalition aircraft's continued dropping of flares provides fresh evidence of the determination of the United States and its allies to harm the Iraqi people and undermine Iraq's security and sovereignty.

Thermal Flares Dropped 21 Jun

JN2706151693 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Iraq has informed the United Nations that U.S. aircraft dropped thermal flares over the village of Qabiz in al-Quwayr Subdistrict in Irbil Governorate.

A protest note sent to the UN secretary general yesterday said the aircraft dropped four thermal flares on 21 June, starting a fire in a cereal field. This ongoing practice by U.S. aircraft, the note added, furnishes fresh evidence that the United States is bent on doing damage to Iraq, its people, security, and sovereignty.

Note to Arab League Protests Airspace Violations

JN2706151193 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Iraq has lodged a protest with the Arab League about Saudi and Kuwaiti rulers continuing to make their facilities available for American, British, and French aircraft taking off from their territories to violate Iraqi airspace. The note, handed by Iraq's permanent delegate to the Arab League to League Secretary General 'Isamat 'Abd-al-Majid, pointed out that the action constitutes a serious threat to Iraq's security and sovereignty.

The letter noted that 89 sorties were mounted on 23 and 24 June. A list of these violations was attached to the letter. The Iraqi delegate asked that the letter be circulated among the League members.

Envoy Seeks Arab League Support To Free Assets

JN2506193293 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Iraq has called upon the Arab League to move without delay toward releasing Iraqi funds frozen in Arab and foreign banks. According to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY's Cairo correspondent, Ambassador Nabil

Najm, Iraq's permanent delegate to the League, told two assistants of the Arab League secretary general that, having complied with all the relevant UN Security Council resolutions, Iraq is fully entitled to its frozen funds to allow it to put its cultural and religious program into practice. He said the implementation of Iraq's program to incorporate the holy Koran into school curricula for all grades and the need to print millions of copies of the Koran justify the release of part of the Iraqi money frozen in Arab and foreign banks in order to facilitate the accomplishment of this sacred mission.

The ambassador stressed the need for the Arab League to move vigorously to get the entire embargo lifted and to directly intercede with Arab countries to free \$10 million.

The Arab League secretary general's assistants expressed their full understanding of Iraq's objective, i.e., to raise the cultural and scientific standards of society.

Meanwhile, the higher Arab council for science and technology has urged Arab states to release Iraqi funds so they can be used to finance printing of copies of the holy Koran. Dr. Subhi Shalash, head of the Arab council for science and technology, told the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY's Algiers correspondent that lifting the embargo on the Iraqi funds so that they may be used to defray the cost of the printing of the holy book is a duty the Arab countries must promptly fulfill to advance Arabism and Islam.

He further called on Arab intellectual, cultural, and professional bodies to pressure their governments to end the iniquitous embargo so the Iraqi people can resume their preeminent position in Arab affairs. He pointed out that denying Iraqi pupils access to scientific and educational aides is a theme raised by U.S.-led Western nations to rob Iraq and the Arab nation of the opportunity afforded by Iraq's renaissance. This is because the West is fully aware of the implications of Iraq's success for Western interests and the Zionist entity's expansionist policies at the expense of Arab rights.

Frenchman Thought To Be in Detention for Illegal Entry

LD2906143093 Paris Radio France International in
French 1300 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] A Frenchman might be in detention in Iraq. Apparently he has been sentenced to eight years' imprisonment for illegal entry into Iraqi territory. He is (Jean-Luc Barriere), a 25-year-old engineer who works for a telecommunications company in Kuwait. According to his family it seems that he unknowingly crossed the frontier and was arrested by the Iraqi police. When he disappeared 10 days ago, the young man was touring by car in the desert near the Iraqi frontier.

Report Cites Depleted Uranium Contamination, Danger

JN2606151793 Baghdad INA in English 1300 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, June 26, INA—A German professor called for combating the contamination and dangers resulted from depleted uranium which has been used by U.S. in its aggression against Iraq in 1991.

Professor Seigwart Gunther referred to a new health report saying that contamination from depleted uranium poses a serious health threat to Iraqi children, U.S. and allied troops which took part in the aggression, residents near sites where the toxic and radioactive substances are produced, tested or stored and workers who manufacture depleted uranium.

He also called for an investigation into the case of depleted uranium left in the Arab Gulf, and recommended to clean the area from radioactive bullets shot by coalition forces against Iraq.

According to the report, anyone who ingests or inhales depleted uranium is at risk. Particles can lodge in the lungs leading to ongoing radiation exposure and potential cancers. When it contaminates drinking water, it ends up in the bones of human beings increasing the risk of leukemia.

Many U.S. troops which took part in the aggression are now suffering from symptoms that may be caused by depleted uranium contamination. One of them is U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Carol Picon who served near the front lines in Iraq. "We fear we have been treated like human Guinea pigs in a radiation experiment," he said.

Many of the U.S. tanks and other fighting vehicles damaged by "friendly fire" in Iraq and Kuwait were, in fact, struck by DU [Depleted Uranium]-tipped weapons. Professor Gunther quoted the report as saying.

For residents of the Arab Gulf, the unseen danger of radiation lingers amidst the war's litter. Depleted uranium debris from exploded allied ordinance spread far beyond the battlefield and contaminate the region's air, water, land and food chain, Doctor Gunther warned.

Despite these problems, the U.S. Department of Energy provides depleted uranium free of charge to private companies which use it to manufacture ordinance for the U.S. Department of Defence, according to the report.

Lenny Siegel, director of the Pacific Studies Centre put the DU issue in perspective when he wrote: "conceivably, these depleted uranium weapons could become the 'Agent Orange' of the 1990s, inflicting disease years later.

Iraqi children have been seen playing in burned-out tanks and handling the shells. Few months after the Gulf war, Professor Gunther found a number of these bullets near a highway linking Baghdad to Amman, Jordan.

"They were so heavy that I felt suspicious," he had told THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER.

After investigation, Professor Gunther attributed the spread of cancer, leukaemia and a mysterious disease which causes abdomen distension in Iraq to these radioactive bullets.

Ironically, nuclear medicine for the treatment of cancers is banned from Iraq by the U.N. sanctions.

U.S. Army General Ronald Blanck has recently said that more than 300 U.S. troops are suffering from a mysterious illness.

Meanwhile, the British House of Commons on February 10, 1993, featured information that the allies, mainly the U.S., used "tactical nuclear weapons" (that is depleted uranium shells employing waste by-products of the nuclear industry) in their attacks on Iraq.

The UK Atomic Energy Authority says that over 40 tonnes of nuclear material were dropped into Iraq and Kuwait. The resultant uranium dust now is listed as one probably cause for the sharp rise in childhood leukaemia in Iraq.

In July 1992, German authorities arrested Professor Gunther, director of the Albert Schweitzer Institute, after he travelled to Berlin carrying a spent depleted uranium penetrator retrieved from the Iraqi desert. He was charged with illegally "releasing ionizing radiation." Once two laboratories confirmed the radioactivity of the shell, it was sealed in a lead-lined box. "There are no lead-lined boxes for the people of Iraq," he commented.

He went on to say that the German authorities seem unhappy with his activities in investigating the use of depleted uranium shells against Iraq. "So, my German passport was stolen in Romania several months ago and the German authorities till now didn't give me a new one. Moreover, a big jeep has tried to kill me so I needed seven weeks of hospital treatment because I was severely injured and the issue is now raised in the German parliament," he said.

During his current visit to Iraq, Professor Gunther brought shipments of medicine for Iraqi children. His efforts to help the children of Iraq are clear since 1990 when the trade embargo was imposed on the country. He will hold talks with Iraqi officials about opening a new branch of his society in Baghdad to offer more relief aid to Iraq children.

The Austria-based Yellow Cross International Society was established last year with the aim of helping children and combating the use of depleted uranium weapons. The society has now some 5,000 members all over Europe.

Professor Gunther is invited by Jordan's Red Crescent Society on July 2 to speak about the health situation in

Iraq and related problems. He has published a number of articles and held radio and TV interviews highlighting the issue of Iraqi children.

Opposition Says U.S. Applies 'Selective Policy'

NC2906160493 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Iraqi opposition forces, factions, and parties agree the United States is applying a selective policy toward Iraq and its people, who suffer the reckless behavior of tyrant Saddam Husayn's regime. The Free Iraqi Council issued a statement yesterday blaming tyrant Saddam Husayn's regime for the destruction of homes and the deaths of innocent victims who fell during the recent U.S. missile attacks. The council asked the United States, which let Saddam Husayn survive after the Gulf war, to topple the despised regime as a punishment for its crimes and to save our people from his evil.

The Iraqi Democratic National Reconciliation Grouping [tajammu' al-wifaq al-watani al-dimuqrati al-'iraqi] and the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq stated in two similar statements that the American missile attack on the despised regime's intelligence headquarters came when no criminal and tyrannical regime figures were in the building. They said any attack that does not try to terminate Saddam and his regime—a dictatorial and oppressive regime that poses a constant threat to the stability and security of Iraq and the region—will only impose further oppression, tyranny, and suffering on the Iraqi people.

Iraqi opposition sources in Damascus said information they received on Monday [28 June] from Iraq reports that the U.S. shelling of the despised regime's intelligence headquarters included areas between al-Mansur and al-Yarmuk, which are two heavily populated Baghdad districts. The shelling also killed and wounded many people.

Al-Hakim: Popular Armed Struggle Needed To Oust Regime

LD2806151193 Tehran IRNA in English 1425 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 28, IRNA—Head of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Baqir al-Hakim, says the ouster of the Iraqi regime is possible only by the Iraqi people.

Al-Hakim who was addressing a group of Iraqi Muslim opposition here, referred to the outcome of his recent visits to Saudi Arabia, Syria and Kuwait and said "a change of the ruling regime in Iraq was impossible but by the people and through support for the popular armed struggle."

He referred to the danger of contamination of the southern Iraqi marshlands which he said had led to poisoning of scores of Iraqi children. Al-Hakim said that based on medical reports, the spread of various types of

diseases and contamination of the waters were seriously threatening the lives of the marsh dwellers, especially the children.

He called on the international community and countries neighboring Iraq to rush to the help of the people in the south, especially those residing in marshlands.

Government Reportedly Stepping Up Marshland Attacks

NC2806175693 Paris AFP in English 1648 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 28 (AFP)—Iraqi government troops have in the last few days stepped up attacks on Shiite Muslims in the south, forcing dozens of families to flee to Iran, an Iraqi opposition group said here on Monday [28 June].

Iraqi troops "have expanded their offensives and attacks against the Shiite Muslim population of the marshlands," the Iranian-based Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI) said.

"Iraqi shelling on these regions has forced several dozen families to flee to Iran," the group said.

The report could not be confirmed.

The swamplands stretch over some 35,000 square kilometers (10,000 square miles) between the cities of Basra, Amarah and Nasiriyah, where opposition fighters and army deserters are hiding out.

U.S. and other allied aircraft have barred Iraqi aircraft from flying over this region since August 27 last year.

Iran Said Shelling Northern Villages; Kurds Leaving

NC2706190193 Paris AFP in English 1834 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Al-Sulaymaniyah, Iraq, June 27 (AFP)—Iran has been shelling villages in northern Iraq for the past three weeks, forcing dozens of Iranian Kurds to flee the region, a U.N. spokesman said Sunday [27 June].

The head of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees told AFP that 80 Iranian Kurdish families have fled border villages in the wake of the shelling and that the UNHCR was providing them with assistance.

A spokesman for the opposition Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan [DPIK] said two people were killed and around 20 wounded in shelling which targeted the border villages of Qaslan, Boli and Shawazi, that serve as DPIK bases.

Iraqi Kurdish officials, who elected a parliament in northern Iraq last year in defiance of Baghdad, confirmed the toll.

An Iraqi Kurdish police chief in Maydan, in the district of Darbandikhan, told AFP that Iraqi gunners pounded mainly Qaslan. The inhabitants have been evacuated but "shelling is going on worse than before," he said.

An AFP correspondent who toured the region saw that houses had been destroyed in several villages near Maydan. The shelling triggered fires in wheat fields in the region.

In May, Iran shelled the outskirts of Qaslan and other targets in northern Iraq, where it also carried out several incursions.

Tehran had then accused the DPIK as well as the main armed Iranian opposition movement, the People's Mojahedin, based in Iraq of having carried out "terrorist action in western Iran."

Meanwhile a member of the Kurdish "government" in northern Iraq said Iran intensified attacks on the region "because it is afraid" that its own Kurdish minorities could set up an independent authority in defiance of Tehran.

But Jabbar Ferman, who is in charge of peshmerga (Kurdish fighters) affairs, ruled out any response by the Iraqi Kurds to "this provocation".

Kurdistan Democratic Party's Barzani Grants Interview

PM2406153993 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 22 Jun 93 p 6

[Interview with Kurdistan Democratic Party leader Mas'ud Barzani by unidentified correspondent in Ankara; date not given]

[Excerpts] [AL-HAYAH] Following the Syrian-Iranian-Turkish meeting held in Tehran early in the month Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' described the situation in Iraqi Kurdistan as "chaotic." Do you believe that this description represents the reality?

[Barzani] That description does not represent the reality in Kurdistan; this is acknowledged by numerous neutral parties. What prevails in Iraqi Kurdistan is law, order, and democracy, which can be considered an example to be followed. It is very regrettable that such statements should come from participants in the tripartite meeting. I believe that some neighboring states wish their security situation was like that in Iraqi Kurdistan.

We had expected another position urging support for the Iraqi people and the democratic alternative for Iraq's future and helping the Kurdish people to extricate themselves from the predicament and economic crisis they are experiencing. We are suffering from problems, and the proper thing should have been for our neighbors to help us to overcome these problems, instead of creating further problems, threatening us, and coming out with assessments which are far removed from the reality. We

believe that such statements and positions are interference in Iraq's affairs, specifically our affairs, and a distortion of the truth and the reality.

Minister al-Shar's statements in particular aroused our utmost amazement. Why did he speak about the situation in Kurdistan in such a manner, when he knows well that the description he used is untrue? I cannot find a reasonable reason for this. His statement was a shock for us, because we have always known Syria to be supportive of the Iraqi people's cause and the Kurdish people. We had not expected these statements, which are not in line with the supportive position which we experienced in the past and which we still experience from President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian Government at large.

Syria embraced the Iraqi opposition, helped it, and spared no effort to help the Kurdish people. And relations with the Kurdistan Front were and still are good and distinctive. And all the Kurdish parties have special relations with Syria.

The painful thing is the attitude behind Al-Shar's remarks about Kurdistan. Even if the situation is "chaotic" in Kurdistan, we expect Syria to help us to eliminate, not deepen, this chaos.

[AL-HAYAH] The neighboring states always raise the question of Iraq's unity and territorial integrity. And often fears over Iraq's unity are linked with the situation in Kurdistan. For their part, the Kurds believe that there is no justification for these fears.

[Barzani] Those accusations confuse us. And what confuses us more is the position of some parties which profess their concern over the Kurdish situation. When we fought the Baghdad regime, they regarded us as outlaws. And when we entered into negotiations with it, they conspired to thwart the negotiations. What is more, they considered our engagement in the negotiations an abandonment of our commitments toward the Iraqi opposition. Then we played a role in the formation of the opposition [Unified] Iraqi National Congress. We participated in it with all our weight to prove that we are for Iraq's unity, but they refused to cooperate with the Congress and considered its formula unacceptable. This is why we do not know what we are required to do to convince them that we are for Iraq's unity. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] But some opposition parties continue to reject the National Congress formula and believe that the main task is to topple Saddam Husayn, and that anything else should be deferred until after this aim has been achieved. Why are you opposed to this view?

[Barzani] Because we do not want a repetition in Iraq of what happened in Afghanistan after the mojahedin toppled the former regime in Kabul. This is because the number of victims among the Afghan people after the mojahedin's victory exceeds the number during the fighting against the former regime. We do not want that to happen in Iraq. Who can guarantee that Afghanistan's

tragedy would not be repeated in Iraq if we do not agree beforehand on a clear political program for its future—a program that includes a specific formula for the Kurdish people's rights?

Who can guarantee for us that the new ruler in Baghdad will implement his commitments vis-a-vis the rights of the Iraqi people in general and the Kurdish people in particular? And if there are parties in the Iraqi opposition who are not willing to recognize the Kurds' rights now, who can we expect them to recognize them when they come to power?

The proposal that the endorsement of a formula for Iraq's future should be postponed is futile. And we are not prepared to get involved in such a trick. But nor do I believe that it is in the Iraqis' interests to waste our efforts in a permanent discussion of the unification of the opposition and the convening of a more futile conference. We are entitled to cooperate with those who recognize our rights. We cannot cooperate with those who avoid recognizing them. This must be made very clear. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] Have those opposed to the "Salah-al-Din" proposed an alternative tangible program?

[Barzani] There is no program. Their main objection is to the federation formula. As far as we are concerned, this is a principled matter which we will not concede. They insist that we should defer everything until the present regime in Baghdad has been toppled. We reject this proposal, because it is impractical and unsuccessful. In fact it could bring destruction and ruin for the Iraqi people. I am amazed that some of the parties now opposed to a federation banked on the Kurdish movement in the past. And although at some point we thought that we were forbidden to demand anything more than self-rule, some of them were urging us to demand a federation!

They are also opposed to the national tendency's (representation) ratio in the Congress and to the formula of its presidential council. Our reply is that the majority of the nationalist tendency are organizations and figures represented in the National Congress. Only a small section of this tendency is outside it.

For our part, we will support any proposal or attempt to develop the Congress' formula and work. We have the "Salah-al-Din" formula, which is acceptable, successful, and internationally recognized. We must consider it a strong foundation on which we should build, not demolish it. And we will not accept any alternative to this formula unless it is a better one—which does not exist.

[AL-HAYAH] You will be returning to Kurdistan after a long tour which took you to several states within the framework of Iraqi and Kurdish opposition delegations. It began with the United States and ended with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. What will you tell the Kurds about the results of the tour?

[Barzani] I will tell them that the results were very good, especially at the political and security level. We sensed a confirmation that dealings can only be conducted with the democratic alternative embodied by the Iraqi National Congress. They also told us that the international community will continue to protect the Kurds and that it has no intention of achieving reconciliation with the Baghdad regime. We heard this from U.S. Vice President Albert Gore, Secretary of State Warren Christopher, and National Security Adviser Anthony Lake. The same position was emphasized to us by French President Francois Mitterrand and British Prime Minister John Major.

As for our visit to Saudi Arabia, it was very successful and opened a new door for us. The result is that we established very good relations with the kingdom, and it promised to provide aid to and establish strong cooperation with us. At the economic level, the coalition forces stressed to us that they are dealing with the issue seriously and seeking to find ways out of the complications surrounding the international resolutions concerning the imposition of economic sanctions on Iraq. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] What issues did you discuss with Turkish officials?

[Barzani] We had a successful visit to Turkey during which we met with President Suleyman Demirel, Acting Prime Minister Erdal Inonu, Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin, leaders of the main opposition parties. The most important thing we heard from Demirel was his assertion that the Turkish state is committed to defending Iraqi Kurds, even if the coalition states are unable to provide this protection for them. [passage omitted]

With regard to Turkey, we hope that the fighting will stop again and that everyone will return to the road of peace. What is happening in Turkey, especially in the adjacent border areas, affects Iraqi Kurdistan too. The government of Iraqi Kurdistan signed an agreement with the Kurdish Workers' Party [PKK]. The party should respect and adhere to it. We cannot sacrifice our people to satisfy the wishes of the PKK or anyone else. As long as the party's elements are in our area, they must adhere to the clauses of the agreement and respect our decisions and the parliament's decisions.

If they do not like these terms, they are free to leave the area and move to any destination they want. We are entitled to demand that they not burden us with responsibilities we cannot shoulder. If they persist in stirring up problems for us, they will bear a historic responsibility for the potential consequences. We still hope they will not stir up problems for us and for themselves as well. We believe that the right path is for them to renew the cease-fire decision—a position which serves the Kurds' interests.

Kurdish Leadership Denounces Consulate Occupations

JN2506194893 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Brother listeners: The Kurdish leadership in Iraq has received with great pain the reports that some extremist Kurdish youths had occupied some Turkish consulates in France, Germany, and Switzerland under the pretext that they want to establish peace in Turkey and halt the military operations there.

To prevent confusion, the Iraqi Kurdish leadership believes it is dutybound to clarify the following facts:

1. The Kurdish liberation movement is characterized by the fact that it always adopts fair methods of struggle in peaceful, democratic, and political action, as well as in armed revolutionary action. The movement has avoided terrorism, blind violence, and [word indistinct] extremist means. This premise, we believe, is an honest Kurdish tradition from which it is impermissible to deviate.

2. The armed occupation of consulates, the killing of people in the process, and the holding of defenseless people as hostages and detainees are condemned by the civilized world as acts of terrorism.

While condemning the armed occupation of Turkish consulates, we also view such an occupation as detrimental to the Kurdish liberation movement and a departure from Kurdish militant traditions. That is why we call on [word indistinct] to immediately cease these

operations out of concern about the reputation of the Kurdish people and their just national cause. [Words indistinct] ending the fighting between the Kurdish and Turkish brothers has always been a noble objective for whose realization we have always called. While we [words indistinct] continuation and resumption [words indistinct] voice our firm conviction that the actions the civilized world views as terrorist, and reprehensible actions such as the holding of hostages, and the occupation of consulates with armed force, will serve neither the political settlement of any problem whatsoever nor the establishment of peace in the Turkish Republic. On the contrary, these actions only serve extremism and the advocates of violence.

4. [number as heard] The Iraqi Kurdish leadership, which has done much to guarantee the security of international Turkish-Iraqi borders, and to end the fighting of the brothers, announces it remains committed to its special obligations to safeguard the security of the borders and prevent the use of Iraqi Kurdistan as a platform for armed actions against the Turkish Republic. It appeals to the brother Kurds to give up the use of violence and terrorist methods and proceed with sincerity, wisdom, and realism toward a peaceful political and democratic solution. We hope the Turkish Government will work for peace and stability in its country and for settling problems with democratic and peaceful means. All parties should realize that Turkish-Kurdish brotherhood is deeply etched in history and will not be harmed but only enhanced by accord, amity, and peace, far from fighting, violence, extremism, and chauvinism, and by respect for human rights, democracy, and legitimate mutual interests.

Peres: U.S. To Lead Struggle Against Iranian Danger

TA3006110793 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpts] The Knesset this morning held a debate on the arming of Iran and the spread of Iranian sponsored fundamentalist terrorism. Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres maintains that the Israeli Intelligence is fully aware of the situation, but that the United States must lead the international effort against terrorism. Our correspondent David Ze'ev reports from the Knesset:

Responding to calls that Israel must do more, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told the Knesset that the United States is better equipped to lead the international effort against the arming of Iran and its increasing influence around the world, and that the Clinton administration has stated its determination to fight both Iraq and Iran. [passage omitted]

In the Knesset debate the language was sharp. Knesset members warning of a world war, and another Hiroshima of Iran is not stopped.

U.S., Israeli Deterrence Policies Examined

TA2906171093 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Jun 93 p B1

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "A Superpower's Prerogative"]

[Text] The arguments employed to justify the U.S. act of retaliation against Iraq's intelligence headquarters is reminiscent of claims Israel has often made to justify its acts of retaliation. Israel's argumentation has been criticized on more than one occasion by Washington and others who now express support for the U.S. military response to the intention to assassinate former President George Bush.

Its starts with the right to self-defense and the claim that this right is applicable beyond simply preventing an imminent attack. Washington argues that its right to self-defense is also valid when it wishes to react to an act of aggression that was frustrated (the planning of Bush's assassination). It certainly applies when the response aims at harming those who plan murders, to deter them and others from future aggressions.

The American explanations are similar to those Israel used when innocent civilians residing near the attacked target were harmed. The United States is learning these inner contradictions in its own way. This time it is more convincing than several years ago when it attacked Grenada and later Noriega's Panama. The only difference is that the United States is a superpower, and Israel is a small and dependent country, which often must curb its reactions, even when the issue in question is protecting its most vital security interests.

We had better not pin too much hope for a better understanding in Washington of Israel's occasional military moves, made in its own self-defense. Ten years went by before Washington justified Israel's destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981. Naturally, it only came after the United States did the same when it destroyed two Iraqi nuclear research centers during the Gulf war in an attack supported by the UN Security Council.

These retroactive remarks of support have not prevented a very angry U.S. reaction to Israeli reconnaissance flights over Iraq after the war. There were some in Washington who even entertained the idea of punishing Israel. Hence, the use of "Israeli arguments" for the justification of a U.S. act of retaliation does not automatically guarantee American support for Israel's future acts of retaliation, even when they are highly justified. Let us not forget that we are living in a single-superpower world, and it is better to have this superpower as our friend and ally.

Israel claims that the U.S. attack on the Iraqi intelligence headquarters has nothing to do with it. Meaning that Israel is out of the picture, and it is merely viewing it from the sidelines. The truth is, naturally, different. Israel has a very strong interest in what has and is happening in Iraq, although its connection with the attack itself is rather indirect. This indirect connection is expressed in various ways. Israel does not only justify the U.S. operation—as Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin put it, Israel has noted with satisfaction that Washington's tough policy against Saddam Husayn's Iraq has not changed since President Clinton entered the White House. This continuity serves Israel today.

The recent developments reinforce Israel's claim that Iraq is run by an aggressive regime and a ruler whom the U.S. and its allies failed to overthrow. As long as Saddam Husayn is in power in Baghdad, Washington will make sure that the international pressure on Iraq continues. The pressure is primarily aimed at preventing Iraq from going back into producing unconventional weapons and long-range missiles. Having the UN inspections of Iraq continue for a very long time is a clear Israeli interest.

On the face of it, there seems to be a certain contradiction here. Anyone interested in continued supervision might reach the conclusion that the preferable situation is having a weak Saddam Husayn, who nonetheless continues to annoy and worry his neighbors, in power in Baghdad. Removing him too hastily might change the rules of the game between Iraq and the international community.

This used to be the stand of Israel's intelligence community, but there is doubt whether it is correct in the long run.

The current U.S. policy in the Persian Gulf deals with the problem with what is known as the Dual Containment Policy: On one hand, containing Iraq and preventing it from reverting to its wicked ways, and on the

other hand, containing Iran against exploiting the weakness of its neighbor and setting up a threatening military force equipped with nonconventional weapons. On the military level, Washington backs this policy with a new concept called Strategic Conventional Deterrence. In the past, U.S. deterrence was primarily based on nonconventional weapons. The USSR's disintegration on the one hand, and the threat of local conflicts and the rise to power of small aggressors on the other, forced American strategists to seek ways that would deter small aggressive countries that are certain that the United States would not use its nuclear power against them. The use of cruise missiles from a distance is an example of this policy. This is an expensive weapon for such targets, but it also allows a quick response against painful targets, without endangering pilots. This weapon is solely used today by superpowers. How would things look if small countries, such as Iran or Israel for example, were to develop or purchase cruise missiles? Many countries would then view threats against them as much harsher, unless there is true regional peace.

Shahal on Establishment of Palestinian Police Force

TA3006052693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Police Minister Moshe Shahal says a Palestinian police force can be set up in the territories a little more than six months after an agreement of principals on the issue. The minister was speaking to foreign correspondents in Jerusalem. David Essing reports:

[Begin recording] [Essing] Police Minister Shahal left no doubt that a Palestinian police force could be swiftly implemented after the skeleton agreement was worked out. It takes about six months, he said, to train a police officer. Shortly after that, the police force could take over. He believes it will be easier to implement it first in the Gaza Strip, where the population is less mixed than in Judaea and Samaria. There was no decision yet on the size of the Palestinian force, but Shahal spoke of it being proportional to that of the Israeli police force. That rate is about four policemen per 1,000 population. Israel has presented a proposal to the Palestinian delegation at the Washington peace talks, but so far there has been no response. The autonomy police would have jurisdiction over crime prevention among Arab residents, and in all issues pertaining to internal security in its area. Israeli police will have authority over Israeli citizens.

The two police forces will deal with security matters that are of interest to both, or in conflicts that involve an Israeli citizen and a Palestinian. Shahal foresees Israeli and Palestinian policemen working side by side in such cases. He stresses that consultation and coordination between the two police forces will be necessary at every level, from national police headquarters to the policeman on his beat.

[Shahal] If this coordination fails or falters along the way, we will find ourselves with two armed forces covering the same area, and the danger will be very high that God forbid, they could turn on each other.

[Essing] Police Minister Shahal rejects threats from Jewish settlers saying there is no real basis to recent reports that they will act against a Palestinian police force. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0400 GMT on 30 June adds: "The police says it did not find that Jewish settlers who staged Palestinian police activity several months ago violated the law, and does not recommend pressing charges against them. A senior police source told our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum that except for the statements to the media, no real offense was committed. He said there was an attempt to exploit the police for political purposes. The police minister and the police commissioner told correspondents last night that there is no evidence to support the claims that there is a Jewish underground in the territories."]

Security Forces Capture Fatah Members in Gaza Strip

TA3006105593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] Security forces last night captured two wanted Fatah men in the township of Bayt Lahiyah in the northern sector of the Gaza Strip. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that they are members of the Fatah Eagles. One of the suspects, Hatam Salama, 19, is suspected of kidnapping and wounding Lucien Kohen, an Ashqelon resident, in the Bayt Lahiyah area in May. A Carl Gustav submachine gun and ammunition were found in his possession. The other suspect, 'Abd-al-Hadid Hasanat, 17, is suspected of having attacked several residents after accusing them of assisting the authorities.

Cabinet Briefed on King's U.S., UK Visits

JN2906195693 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1520
GMT 29 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Amman, 29 Jun (PETRA)—The Council of Ministers held a session this morning under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd al-Salam al-Majali. At the beginning, the council was briefed on the results of His Majesty King Husayn's successful visits to both of Britain and the United States, including his meetings with senior officials in both countries.

The Council of Ministers then reviewed its agenda and agreed to authorize the minister of state for foreign affairs to establish diplomatic relations with the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina at the level of an accredited nonresident ambassador.

In May last years, Jordan recognized, along with other states, the independence of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The council decided that the Jordanian ambassador in Vienna will act as an accredited ambassador in Sarajevo.

The council also authorized the information minister to issue two political dailies under the names "AKHBAR AL-YAWM" and "AKHIR KHABAR." They will be printed in Amman in Arabic.

The council also agreed to issue two weeklies, one is political under the name "AL-BILAD" and the other is cultural under the name "AL-DA'WAH," as well as a bimonthly newspaper under the name "AL-BAYT AL-'ARABI" dealing with womens issues and family affairs. [passage omitted]

Permission Sought To Stage Pro-Iraq Demonstrations

JN3006074593 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
30 Jun 93 p 1

[Text] Amman—SAWT AL-SHA'B—Ten political parties in addition to the Jordanian Popular Committee in Support of Iraq have asked the government to allow them to stage demonstrations in the kingdom's towns and villages to express the Jordanian people's stand toward the recent U.S. aggression against sisterly Iraq and their support for the fraternal Iraqi people.

In a memorandum to Prime Minister 'Abd al-Salam al-Majali, the political parties announced that they will ensure that the political forces will abide by law and order during the demonstrations.

The memorandum was signed by the Jordanian Arab Socialist Ba'ith Party, the Jordanian National Alliance Party, the Progress and Justice party, the Islamic Action Front, the al-Hurriyah [Freedom] Party, the al-Mustaqbal [Future] Party, the Jordanian Democratic Popular Unity Party, the Jordanian Socialist Democratic

Party, the Democratic Arab Unionist Party, the Jordanian Communist Party, and the general secretary of the Jordanian Popular Committee in Support of Iraq.

Muslim Brotherhood, Communists Condemn U.S. Attack

JN3006083593 Amman AL-RAY' in Arabic
30 Jun 93 p 8

[Text] The parties, trade unions, and popular organizations continue to denounce the U.S. attack on Iraq.

The Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan issued a statement yesterday in which it condemned the new U.S. aggression against the Iraqi Muslim people as part of its aggressive policy against the Arab and Muslim peoples.

The statement accused the Security Council of providing a legitimate cover for the U.S. arrogance in Iraq, Somalia, and other Arab countries at a time when it fails to implement its resolutions on the return of the Palestinian deportees and those relating to the Serbian and Croatian aggression against Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The statement urged the Arab and Muslim governments, peoples, and movements to adopt a sincere position in face of the aggression. It also called on them to resolve their differences and sincerely work for unity and public liberties.

The Jordanian Communist Party [JCP] also issued a statement condemning the U.S. aggression against Iraq. The statement described the new U.S. aggression as terrorism by a state that believes it controls the United Nations and, therefore, can terrorize all peoples and subjugate them through ultimate force and monopoly.

The JCP called on Jordanians and all Arab peoples to unify their forces and energies in order to respond to the imperialist crimes.

The Arab Doctors Union condemned the barbaric aggression which killed and injured scores of people, and declared its firm support for the Iraqi people in their confrontation of all forms of conspiracies aimed at subjugating them, and encroaching on their territorial integrity.

The Jordanian Jurists Society issued a statement yesterday condemning the U.S. aggression on Iraq.

In its statement, the society said that this horrible crime is another crime the present U.S. Administration can add to the black file of aggression against our people in Iraq.

Arab States Urged To Withdraw From Negotiations

JN2506120493 Amman AL-BA'TH in Arabic 23 Jun 93
p 1

[Editorial: "The Negotiated Settlement and the Required Stand"]

[Text] The mouthpieces and theoreticians of the settlement inundated us with essays and speeches stressing the need to go to Madrid and to approve of the negotiations in Washington. They emphasized that we must stick to this option under the pretext that there is no alternative to this step. We do not rule out the possibility that they might soon voice the opinion that conceding the Arab character of Palestine and the Holy of Holies [Jerusalem] are needs dictated by the current phase in order to preserve the nation, be flexible, and meet the requirements of the alleged new world order.

The proponents of the settlement go so far as to accuse those who oppose the settlement deals as impotent people who cannot produce an alternative. They say that their opposition is a demagogic one.

Before discussing this claim, it must be stressed that the constant principles of the nation are not debatable. The foremost of these principles is the Arab nature of the territories that extend from the Atlantic Ocean to the Arabian Gulf. No compromise on any inch of these territories is negotiable. Another principle is that Islam is

the soul of this nation that God has honored to preach its message. The third is that the Arab nation is one despite the artificial borders that have been imposed between one country and another and that have become sacred to some because of their narrow interests.

These principles are nonnegotiable. They are not subject to discussion at any time or under any circumstances. To deviate from them would be to deviate from the nation, regardless of causes and justifications.

The pretexts presented to justify negotiating with the Zionist enemy, such as poverty, lack of resources, the fragmentation of the nation, and the lack of means of resistance and rejection, are flimsy. They disappear when we look at the Iraqi example. Iraq withstood hunger, disease, and aggression by 30 states in addition to the siege but refused to go on record as having betrayed Arab rights. To those who argue that Iraq is an ancient country possessing factors of steadfastness and rejection, we say look at the stone-throwing children who possess only their chaste hearts, true affiliation, and courage to resist. How can the Arab men avoid seeing their manhood shrinking when compared to these children?

We do not want to be accused of presenting utopian demands to the negotiating states. We will be satisfied if these states withdraw from the negotiations, leaving it to future generations to deal with the fate of Palestine and the other Arab territories if they are incapable of resisting the Jewish enemy that is occupying our land. This is the least they can do.

Buwayz on 'Christian Frustration,' Peace Talks

PM2806095393 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 24 Jun 93 p 2

[Interview with Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz by Randah Taqiyy-al-Din in Paris; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Taqiyy-al-Din] You told French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe that it would be useful for France to do something for the sake of the Christians in Lebanon. Can you explain the reason for your fear for the Christians?

[Buwayz] The so-called Christian frustration problem in Lebanon is attributable to several factors: First, the amendments to the Lebanese system which made the Christians believe they lost some of their powers. There is also the way in which the implementation of this new system was started. It was not natural. In fact the authorities were forced to use force, when necessary, to end the rebellious situation in the days of General Michel 'Awn. So the way in which the transition to the new system was conducted did not help to accommodate the Christians into the framework of this system. [passage omitted]

[Taqiyy-al-Din] There is a feeling that the Christian frustration is also attributed to the fact that the prime minister is seeking to pass on power to the Muslims at the Christians' expense. What is your opinion?

[Buwayz] I am an advocate of careful, balanced, and wise application of the system in Lebanon. This is because Lebanon is a very delicate country due to its fabric, position, and components. And the situation now is even more delicate, because it has just emerged from a state of war which destroyed the confidence of some of its sons. I am, of course, in favor of correcting any defect that might occur in the framework of practice. And of course, I am more aware of the delicacy of this issue than others. Thus any view offered in this connection should serve national interests. Lebanon's interests can be served by reassuring all its people and by bringing about conditions that are far removed from frustration, spite, and prejudice among the various groups. Lebanon can only progress at the political and economic level by participation in development, rebuilding, and the political game. [passage omitted]

[Taqiyy-al-Din] Can you clarify the current situation on the Lebanese-Israeli track in the Washington negotiations, especially the issue of forming committees?

[Buwayz] I said that specialized committees—military or technical—are bound to be formed one day if progress is made in the negotiations. But we cannot say today that we have reached the point that justifies the formation of committees. Because that can only be done after the principles defining these committees' tasks have been endorsed. As far as Lebanon is concerned, the issue of forming committees comes after Israel recognizes the principle of implementing Resolution 425 without any

ambiguity, and also after it recognizes complete withdrawal from all the occupied Lebanese territories—that is, to beyond the internationally recognized border.

Thus the process of forming committees without a clear aim would not be accepted by Lebanon. This is in the knowledge that Lebanon rejected it eight months ago, and it will not accept it today unless progress is made vis-a-vis defining the complete withdrawal principle. This is because Israel has not hitherto announced its commitment to the withdrawal principle. True, it hinted at "accepting" Resolution 425, but this hint did not come within a clear and binding framework or within the framework of a certain pledge to form a committee to that end.

[Taqiyy-al-Din] What is your opinion of the statement made by Uri Lubrani, head of the Israeli delegation to the negotiations with Lebanon, that the Lebanese side is prevented from making progress unless progress is made on the Syria track?

[Buwayz] That is untrue. I want here to mention the 17 May agreement. After the conclusion of the negotiations the Israeli side requested from the Lebanese side written approval of the agreement from the Syrians. This means that it is the Israelis who always try to link the Lebanese issue with other issues. There is no linkage at all between the Lebanese issue and any other issue with regard to the Israeli withdrawal and the implementation of Resolution 425. [passage omitted]

[Taqiyy-al-Din] But Israel believes that the Lebanese state is not capable of guaranteeing Israel's security?

[Buwayz] That is untrue. We believe that the deterioration in security conditions in the south is the result of the Israeli occupation, not the cause. When the withdrawal takes place, there will be no justification for this deterioration. The Lebanese Army has proved in the past, namely when it entered the southern area and imposed security and stability, its ability to form a real and serious security force. [passage omitted]

Clinton's 'Guerrilla Warfare' Principle Criticized

NC3006084993 Beirut AL-ANWAR in Arabic 29 Jun 93 p 1

[Editorial by Rafiq Khuri: "Clinton's Principle: 'Guerrilla Warfare'"]

[Text] Nothing is worse than the U.S. missile attack on Iraq except the political excuses and explanations that President Clinton's administration appended to the "bloody" message. Nothing is more serious than the above except the world's adaptation to the U.S. arrogance in its power and the Arab world's inability to send a countering "message." The reactions were more in response to President Clinton's problem than to Iraq's. They did not pay as much heed to the world's suffering from the U.S. leadership monopoly as they did to the fear from the weakness of the young U.S. President and

his dithering in leading the world. There were four kinds of reactions: support, understanding, regret, and anger.

The supporters in Moscow, London, Bonn, and most capitals with still cooler nerve called the violation of the UN Charter, of countries' sovereignty, and of human rights an implementation of the Charter's Article 51, which sanctions the "individual and collective right to self-defense." Those who expressed understanding, for example Paris, were annoyed because the United States struck and then went to the Security Council instead of the other way around, as if going to the Security Council first negates the gravity of the U.S. missile attack on a sleeping city. As to those who expressed regret, such as Beijing, New Delhi, Cairo, and some capitals in the region, what they protested was the policy of "double standards" toward Bosnia, Iraq, and, of course, Israel, as if the attack on Baghdad becomes "legitimate" and acceptable if the United States attacks former Yugoslavia or pressures Israel to stop the repression in the occupied territories. As to the angry ones, their voices are virtually lost amid their inability to make an appropriate reply, whether in confronting the United States or in confronting the real problems in the region, including that of the Iraqi people's sufferings.

But it is difficult to erase reality with diplomatic expressions and talk about pragmatic policies. Nothing justifies the U.S. missile attack: neither the claim that it was in response to an Iraqi attempt to assassinate former President George Bush during his visit to Kuwait, nor the insinuation that the target was the intelligence services building in a region where people suffer from the intelligence services and dream of getting rid of them and establishing democratic rule, nor the announcement that the strike was a "message" to President Saddam Husayn, even if this message is written with the blood of civilians, such as the painter Layla al-Attar.

There are courts for investigating cases of assassination attempts. It is not reasonable for the United States to replace justice with revenge and to resort to the principle of tribal revenge when practicing international policy. It is unacceptable for Washington, which stands alone at the top of the world, to wage a technological "guerrilla warfare" against peoples on the pretext that it wants to lead them to democracy or with the excuse that it has no choice in the Gulf but "the dual containment" of Iraq and Iran. Also, a cruise missile attack on Baghdad is the last thing to weaken Saddam Husayn. Rushing from major policies to punishing people with America's might and making "guerrilla warfare" the new Clinton principle is the last thing that will strengthen the U.S. President and make the world trust his leadership and his ability to practice the required foreign policy.

President Clinton can do many things within the context of amateurish policies, whose eternal slogan in Washington is to respond to any problem that has no solution with: Let us do something, from attacking General Aidid's forces in Somalia, to attacking Baghdad, to pressuring Moscow and threatening it with economic

sanctions if it continues to sell missiles—to such an extent that its prime minister has canceled a visit to Washington—to making the downfall of the Chinese prime minister a condition for a Clinton visit to Beijing. But he cannot manage the world with a U.S. Administration that is politically weak but which is capable of playing with missiles and which also has plenty of Israeli supporters. The least that he should be told is this: "The objective of foreign policy is not to satisfy ourselves but to bring change to a real world," according to historian and professor Arthur Schlesinger.

Our problem, in the end, is not only the fact that the new world order is the world disorder but also the fact that the Arab situation has sunk to its lowest levels.

Israeli Sources Say 'War of Attrition' on in South

TA2906111993 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
29 Jun 93 p A2

[Report by Army Affairs Correspondent Eytan Rabin]

[Text] Over the past several weeks, katyushas have hit northern settlements three times. Over the past several months, Hizballah has been shelling Israel's northern settlements about every 10 days. Dozens of rockets are being fired very often at the security zone in south Lebanon, but this is scarcely covered by the media.

Officially, the heads of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] General Staff and regional commanders refuse to state that a war of attrition is being waged on the northern border, but sources at the Northern Command say that such war has actually started in the field. "The terrorists fire katyushas and we fire back. (Then) there is a week of calm, and the whole thing starts all over. This is a war of attrition for all intents and purposes," the sources said.

This year, hundreds of katyusha rockets have been fired into the security zone and northern border settlements, some by Hizballah and some by other terrorist organizations in Lebanon. Only two weeks ago, terrorists fired some 60 katyusha rockets at the northern border, and the IDF retaliated with heavy shelling of Lebanese villages north of the security strip.

Recently, the terrorists have stopped firing 102-mm katyushas, and started shelling the northern border with 122-mm and upgraded Grad 122-mm katyusha rockets. These missiles have a longer range and higher destructive capability.

Sources in the Northern Command say that the terrorist organizations possess thousands of katyusha rockets. Hizballah has purchased missiles with Iranian funds. Yesterday, relatively few rockets were fired, causing heavy damage but very few casualties. Six Qiryat She-mona residents were slightly hurt, four of whom suffered from shock. A senior officer said that "it was a matter of luck," and that the attack could have resulted in a much higher number of casualties.

Until several months ago there was friction between the Shiite Amal militia and Hizballah because Amal opposed the firing of katyushas. It claimed that the IDF retaliates with heavy shelling of Shiite villages north of the security zone, causing many fatalities. Hizballah, however, continued firing katyushas to heat up the region.

No organization has so far assumed responsibility for the recent katyusha attacks, probably for fear of an IDF response. "They want to fire katyushas, but they do not want us to know who fired them," a Northern Command source said.

The recent rounds of katyushas were fired from villages in the central sector of south Lebanon such as Qabriha, Yatar, and Bayt Yahun. Hizballah claimed yesterday that the last round of katyushas was fired in response to an attack by gunships of the Israel Air Force the day before. Sources in the Northern Command have been saying that over the past several months, the IDF has been showing "restraint" in its activities against the terrorists and in retaliating for the katyusha attacks in a bid to avoid being dragged into an escalation in the region, which is the aim of the organization.

After several of the past katyusha attacks, senior Northern Command officers complained that the IDF General Staff did not allow a massive response to the terrorist attacks. Yesterday, many Qiryat Shemona residents also complained, calling for harsher actions against the terrorists, claiming that "it cannot go on like this."

Presently, Hizballah is the largest terror organization operating in south Lebanon, with over 1,000 men and sophisticated armaments. Hizballah has recently purchased Sagger antitank missiles, and its men have been trained by Iranian instructors. Syria has been turning a blind eye to Hizballah operations, allowing its men to operate freely against the IDF and SLA [South Lebanese Army] in south Lebanon.

Army Unit Raids Areas in Tripoli, Impounds Arms

NC2506115293 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] A Lebanese army unit from the northern military zone today raided the port area in Tripoli and Hawsh al-Adid after receiving tips on the existence of arms and ammunition. The force confiscated the following items: 50 RPG's, three RPG launchers, 100 hand grenades, nine Kalashnikov submachine guns, nine Kalashnikov rifles, and a quantity of ammunition.

South Lebanese Army Official Killed by Bomb in Hula

NC2506200193 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1900 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Resistance fighters have detonated an explosive device under a car belonging to an official in the agent

Lahd's [South Lebanese Army] militia. REUTER reported that an explosion killed Mahmud Ayyub, security official in the Lahd militia, along with his daughter while they were riding in a car in Hula village in the occupied border zone.

Aide Also Reported Killed

NC2606071693 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 0430 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The Islamic Resistance last night announced that its fighters executed Mahmud Ayyub, a militia [South Lebanese Army, SLA] security official in the occupied strip's central sector, and his aide Muhammad Sharif by detonating an explosive device under their car on Hula Road.

Army Officer Injured; House Burned in Israeli Raid

NC2706171593 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Three Israeli helicopters raided Zawtar al-Sharqiyah around 1815 today and fired a number of rockets. Lebanese Army Sergeant 'Ali Hallamah was seriously injured, and the house of 'Ali Murtada Isma'il was burned as a result.

IDF Kills 2 'Terrorists' North of Security Zone

TA2906043293 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] In south Lebanon, two terrorists have been killed in a clash with IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers. It happened yesterday afternoon when an IDF unit on patrol, north of the security zone, encountered a group of armed men belonging to the Hizballah organization. The soldiers opened fire on the terrorists, charged forward, and later found the bodies of two men. There were no Israeli casualties.

Qol Yisra'el's monitor says that Radio Free Lebanon reports that Israeli tanks also took part in the clash.

Islamic Resistance Announces Clashes With Israeli Units

NC2906063293 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The militant south was the scene of fierce confrontation between the Islamic Resistance men and the Zionist occupation forces yesterday. At 1600, the heroes of the Islamic Resistance stood like a towering mountain against a Zionist enemy force that tried to advance toward 'Ali al-Tahir forest from al-Dabshah post. The mujahidin confronted the unit with the appropriate weapons, forcing the enemy to retreat after killing and wounding a number of its personnel.

The Islamic Resistance, which announced this, said the operation was carried out in the spirit of ashura—blood

and martyrdom—to underscore the line of the al-Husayn revolution. The Islamic Resistance pledged to the late Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, and to the martyrs, to pursue the line of Karbala's jihad. It stressed that it will not hesitate to make any sacrifice to defend its people and liberate the land.

In another development, fierce clashes took place around Kawkaba yesterday afternoon when a Zionist commando force crossed the contact lines, advancing some 3 km toward Jabal al-Zahr hills and ambushing the Tall al-Daydabah hills. The Islamic Resistance men clashed with force using rockets and machine guns. Resistance groups besieged the region and an exchange of artillery fire took place, becoming less intensive after 2100. According to security sources, large-caliber Israeli artillery fired around 30 shells at the hills and valleys across the central sector of the occupied strip last night.

Two SLA Men, 2 Civilians Wounded in Fighting

TA2906082393 *Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew* 0800 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Excerpt] IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and SLA [South Lebanese Army] units are involved in exchanges of fire with terrorists in the western sector of south Lebanon. Earlier today, the terrorists fired katyusha and mortar shells at SLA positions. Our correspondent Yo'av Aviv reports that two SLA soldiers and two Lebanese residents were wounded by the fire, which was directed at the security zone. The IDF and SLA forces retaliated with artillery, tank, and mortar fire at the assailants.

A roadside bomb exploded between the villages of al-'Ayshiyah and al-Rayhan in south Lebanon. There were no injuries in this incident. [passage omitted]

Resistance Reports Attacks

NC2906111393 *Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic* 1030 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Retaliating for the enemy's continuing acts of aggression, a resistance group detonated an explosive charge as a mounted patrol for the enemy and its agents passed on al-'Ayshiyah-al-Rayhan road. Agent militia's security sources claimed that the explosion caused no casualties.

Earlier in the morning, the resistance launched a series of attacks against enemy positions on the hills of al-Hardun, al-Hamra', al-Radar, and Jabal Safi. The enemy radio said an agent was injured in a resistance operation in the Western sector.

Resistance sources reported several enemy losses. The enemy bombarded the towns of al-Qulaylah and al-Mansuri in Tyre with several shells, causing material damage. Enemy helicopters also raked the surroundings of al-Hamra' hills using machine guns. After that, warplanes overflew al-Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah.

Israeli Shelling, Other Actions Reported

NC2906172893 *Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic* 1530 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The security situation exploded noticeably this afternoon in the south. At around 1530, the Israeli occupation forces renewed their shelling of villages in the central and western sectors from artillery positioned inside the occupied strip. The shelling targeted the villages of Majdal Zun, Kafra, Yatar, Haris, al-Mansuriyah, al-Qulaylah, and [name indistinct]. In Majdal Zun, two citizens, Husayn al-Durr and Musa Hamzah, were hurt. In al-Qulaylah, citizen Mahmud Ramiz Badawi was injured and fires started in the olive groves. The shelling cracked the walls of most houses in al-Mansuriyah.

The shelling was accompanied by a massing of Israeli mechanized patrols on the hills overlooking Majdal Zun and extensive helicopter flights over the hills of al-Nabatiyah al-Fawqa.

Resistance Said To Engage in 'Fierce' Confrontations

NC2906134893 *Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic* 1130 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] After the Israeli attacks last night and the occupation forces' attempts to advance toward the liberated areas, various areas in the south have seen fierce confrontations since this morning. Resistance groups responded to Israeli and Lahdist attacks by attacking occupation and militia positions at the al-Hamra' crossing and in al-Bayyadah and al-Halazun in the western sector. Resistance sources reported that Israeli helicopters tried to land at al-Hamra' crossing. Various southern villages came under Israeli shelling, leading to the martyrdom of 10-year-old Yusuf 'Ali al-Amin. Civil defense groups extinguished many fires that started, most notably in al-Mansurah.

The shelling was accompanied by occupation troop movements inside the occupied strip, flights over al-Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah, and Israeli military boats moving off the coast from al-Naqurah to Tyre.

French Foreign Ministry Secretary Meets Officials

Discusses Relations With al-Shar'

JN2706183693 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today received Serge Boidevaix, secretary general of the French Foreign Ministry, in the presence of Yusuf Shakkur, the foreign minister's assistant; Muwaffaq Nassar, head of the West Europe Desk; and Jean-Claude Cousseran, the French ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting, Boidevaix conveyed a message to al-Shar' from French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, stressing the French Government's willingness to continue bilateral consultations and contacts.

In his message, the French foreign minister expressed his country's interest in the basic role Syria is playing, particularly in the interest of achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the region, as well as its support for the Lebanese Government's efforts to reconstruct Lebanon.

Discussion during the meeting dealt with developments in the ongoing bilateral peace talks in Washington and obstacles facing them. The two sides also discussed bilateral relations, emphasizing their willingness to reinforce and develop these relations in various fields.

Holds Talks With Khaddam

JN2806165493 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] At 1130 today, Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam received Serge Boidevaix secretary general of the French Foreign Ministry.

The meeting was attended by the French ambassador in Damascus. Talks dealt with international developments, the situation in the Middle East, the latest developments of the peace process, the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and bilateral relations.

Comments on Visit, Departs

JN2906135693 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0615 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Serge Boidevaix, secretary general of the French Foreign Ministry, left Damascus this morning after a several-day visit to the Syrian Arab Republic.

In a predeparture statement, Boidevaix noted the importance of this visit during which he held talks with Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and Assistant Foreign Minister Yusuf Shakkur.

He said that talks dealt with international issues of common interest, as well as bilateral relations.

Defense Minister Gives Views on Peace, Arab Ties

NC2606172593 London MBC Television in Arabic 2135 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Interview with Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas by MBC correspondent Nidal Qabalan on the "Face to Face" program; place and date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Qabalan] Syria and certain Arab countries have waged wars against the Israeli enemy. From your experience, do you believe that Israel really wants peace?

[Talas] In fact, I would like to talk about this subject since you mentioned the October war. I want to say that during the October war we encountered difficult circumstances. However, President al-Asad was the most composed among us and was confident of (?Syrian capability). When the tactical circumstances changed, al-Asad came to the military headquarters and then proceeded to the National Front and the cabinet. He said: You shall all fight, and I am the first to fight. We will fight with anti-tank RPG's and incendiary Molotovs. We will not allow the enemy to enter the capital of the Umayyad. He insisted on fighting despite the difficult circumstances. [passage omitted]

[Qabalan] You spoke of the role of previous U.S. Administrations in the conflict with Israel. How would you assess the current U.S. Administration's policy on the peace process in the Middle East?

[Talas] President al-Asad spoke of this issue to the London-based AL-WASAT last month. I believe he fully answered this question regarding the horizons of future peace and Syria's desire for peace. He has always stressed Syria's commitment to a comprehensive, fair, and permanent peace on all fronts. We cannot relinquish any Arab rights. President al-Asad is noted as a man of history. Therefore, he cannot tamper with history. He also wants [words indistinct]. From this premise and from a pan-Arab and patriotic standpoint he can only be considered a first-class statesman.

[Qabalan] At one time, there was much talk about achieving strategic parity between Syria and the Israeli enemy. Does this approach still exist, or has it been somewhat changed by new developments?

[Talas] I would like to say something on this issue because MBC is first and foremost an Arab television network. I will not talk of the Arab-Zionist conflict. The enemy examines our (?ideas) and every word we write or say. From this premise, we do not want to give the enemy anything. We are not obliged to offer it anything. You may agree with us when we say: Why should we talk when they do not? If the Israeli defense minister were to speak we would answer him. Israelis go about their business in secrecy, and we should do the same. Therefore, we should not say anything that may benefit the enemy.

[Qabalan] Observers notice that the open-door economic policy is expanding in Syria. You are known to be interested in this issue and encourage Arab and foreign investment. How do you assess the future of Arab investment in light of a recent conference of Arab investors in Damascus?

[Talas] I can say that since the outset of the Corrective Movement, President al-Asad gave a green light to the three sectors. He said that he supported the public sector, mixed ownership, and the private sector. The three sectors can proceed in tandem and complement one another. At one time the U.S. Administration opposed us, but Syria clung to its line. The current circumstances are not as bad as before. You know that to maintain its status as an Arab force confronting Israel, Syria spends a great deal of its revenue on defense. Frankly speaking, we would have been richer than Switzerland had it not been for this confrontation with Israel. The siege against us was tightened because of our position. [passage omitted] Now we are implementing an open-door policy, and, as all international economic studies have shown, Syria is slated to play a basic role in economic growth and is currently one of the best countries for capital investment. [passage omitted]

[Qabalan] You indirectly spoke of Syria's ties with Arab countries, particularly Saudi Arabia. How would you assess cooperation and coordination with Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries in general?

[Talas] As a matter of fact, President al-Asad's policy stems from openness to Arab solidarity. He emphasized the need for Arab solidarity since he assumed power. He has always focused on enhancing Arab solidarity. When he talks of Arab solidarity, he [words indistinct]. He is an ardent advocate of Arab unity. He is always in the forefront of those who advocate Arab unity and solidarity. From this premise, we restored ties with Egypt. It was President al-Asad's initiative. He believes that Syria and Egypt are two basic countries in the region that must not be separated. President Mubarak [words indistinct]. He believes that Arab national interests are a primary issue. Close ties between Egypt and Syria and with the Damascus Declaration countries—Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, and Qatar—is an acceptable base so that the Arab nation may not collapse or lose its will and sovereignty. Syria, Egypt, and the Damascus Declaration countries must always form a united front.

[Qabalan] You talked of the importance of the Damascus Declaration in safeguarding Arab security. How would you assess Gulf Security and its importance to Syria, the region, and the world?

[Talas] There is no doubt that Gulf security concerns the whole world. It primarily concerns Arab security. After the Gulf war, we do not want to open past wounds. It is now obvious how Arab efforts were directed where we had no interests. We had hoped that Syria, Iraq, and Iran would confront Israeli expansion after Anwar al-Sadat

signed the Camp David accords. We do not know why Iraq fought the Islamic Republic of Iran and when it exhausted most of its resources in that war, it turned to Kuwait to drain Arab resources and wealth. We do not want to be chained to the past, as al-Asad said. We want to look to the future. Syria has special ties with Saudi Arabia and all Gulf countries. [passage omitted]

U.S. Urged To Declare 'Definitive' Position on Peace

JN2606143693 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, Israel seems bound and determined to turn the Middle East peace issue into a game. It is not paying enough attention to efforts to reach a just and comprehensive settlement because it is preoccupied with schemes to expand, build settlements, and absorb the occupied territories.

The Arab delegations, meanwhile, responded to the U.S. initiative and joined the Madrid conference and the Washington talks because of a sincere belief in peace and to achieve justice, find themselves forced to voice deep concern about the lack of progress at the negotiations after 20 months of effort and discussion.

Just as they did yesterday, the peace talks today face Israeli recalcitrance. The Tel Aviv rulers refuse to withdraw from the occupied territories, in accordance with Security Council resolutions and the land-for-peace principle.

What increases the concern of the Arab delegations is that Israel is adhering to its intransigent position under the very eyes of the whole world. Nobody senses any activity by world leaders to correct things and make the Tel Aviv rulers face the facts—the only valid facts—about the desired just settlement.

Foremost among these facts is withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory and assuring the national rights of the Palestinian people.

The current and previous U.S. Administrations have given several assurances and made several assertions that have not been reflected at the negotiations. The Israeli side has not stopped falsifying and reversing facts and hedging on substantive issues. Despite all their efforts and proposals, the Syrians, Lebanese, and Palestinians could not convince Israel to respond to the fundamentals of the peace process. The Israelis tried to dictate conditions to the Lebanese and Palestinians. They did not hesitate to resort to acts of brute force and collective terrorism, such as shelling parts of Lebanon and subjecting the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to a military siege, in addition to pursuit and storming operations, demolishing homes, killing innocent people, and burning property.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher has said the United States will intervene effectively in the 10th round and that tangible results will soon be achieved. Statements by Israeli officials, however, do not signal any change in Israeli positions. At every opportunity, Yitzhaq Rabin openly says he will not return to the 1967 borders or include Jerusalem or the settlements on the agenda of negotiations.

If we remember that more than two-thirds of the West Bank and half of the Gaza Strip have been confiscated in the interest of Jewish settlements, we can see the fragility of the Palestinian self-rule proposal and how far the Israeli Government is from the accepted foundations of the peace process.

The United States can certainly influence Israel's decisions and prompt the Tel Aviv rulers to engage in the peace process. The Arabs have repeatedly urged the United States to assume its responsibilities and carry out its role as an honest, fair partner. This requires a firm stand by the U.S. Administration. This stand, if adopted, will receive wide international support. Everyone knows Israel would not have violated Security Council resolutions and the principles and charters of the international community for more than 40 years if it had not been certain that U.S. financial and military aid would continue to pour into Israel without problem or question.

It is enough for the United States to declare a definitive, straightforward position. Then, we will see how Israel will begin to recalculate and stop gambling with the future of peace in the region. It is quite important that the U.S. Administration declares a firm, straightforward position. The 10th round is in its last week. Ending the talks without achieving results threatens more than the peace process and international credibility. It also deepens the gap between the parties to the conflict and drives home the conviction that Israel and peace are truly antithetical.

Papers Discuss Peace Talks, Israeli Positions

JN2406072393 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 24 Jun 93

[Press review]

[Text] We start with AL-BA'TH, whose editorial today focuses on the Middle East peace process. AL-BA'TH asks: Is there any one in the world who violates the UN resolutions and refuses to implement them they way the Israeli rulers do?

Regarding Israel's repeated attempts to rig the peace process and cause it to run off course in order to take both the land and peace, AL-BA'TH says: This is a clear Israeli objective, which makes them adopt delaying tactics and obstruct the peace process. However, this objective, which the Israeli rulers have failed to achieve through wars, aggression, invasion, occupation, annexation, deportation, and defiance of the world community, could not possibly be given by the Arabs to the

Israelis through negotiations. It is also impossible for the Arabs to fall into Israel's trap and give it through negotiations what it has failed to achieve through wars and aggression.

AL-BA'TH says: The Arabs want peace, but not at the expense of land and rights. They are prepared to accept total peace in return for total withdrawal. The Arabs are also prepared to discuss all consequences of peace when Israel accepts the requirements for establishing a just and comprehensive peace. The Arabs are prepared to put the horse before the cart, but they will never accept putting the horse behind the cart.

AL-BA'TH adds: The Arabs have offered all that is needed for the sake of the peace process. They are now offering good faith and total readiness to cooperate for the sake of just and comprehensive peace, on the basis of clear principles that are in harmony with the resolutions of international legitimacy. The other party should declare its acceptance of the foundations of a just and comprehensive peace, and not play games and evade these foundations and requirements.

Israel's rulers have played games throughout the past nine rounds counting on the United States' bias in its favor. This has harmed the credibility of the United States and its commitment to its principles.

AL-BA'TH concludes by saying: We wish the peace process success in achieving its objectives. But, should it fail, the entire responsibility lies with the Israeli rulers and with every one who helps them defy the resolutions of international legitimacy. The Arabs have offered all they can to boost the peace process until they have reached the red line, which they cannot cross under any circumstances. Meanwhile, Israel continues to display intransigence and arrogance and continues to adhere to its expansionist schemes and defiance of all international norms and laws, insisting on obtaining land, rights, and peace. This is impossible to obtain and will always be so.

TISHRIN discusses Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's recent statements on his pledges toward the peace process. TISHRIN says: When Rabin speaks of disappointment one year after his assumption of power in Israel, he is trying to throw dust in the eyes because he is primarily responsible for that disappointment. It would have been possible to overcome all the disappointments in the Washington talks if the Rabin government had abided by the pledges to achieve peace that it made when it assumed power in Israel.

TISHRIN asserts that the Rabin government's positions, which reject the foundations of the settlement process and its natural course, is a cause for concern. The paper says: This fact requires the sponsors to clarify matters and denounce the Israeli stands and policies that seek to undermine the peace process.

TISHRIN says: If the Israeli side continues to ignore the basic elements of peace, especially withdrawal from the occupied territories, it will be responsible for the failure

of the talks and their arrival at a deadlock. Shamir's government had to face that responsibility, which was a reason for its failure on the domestic, regional, and international levels, as confirmed by the denunciations that followed its unregrettable failure.

TISHRIN concludes by saying: Thus, the Rabin government's commitment to withdrawal from the occupied territories will undoubtedly enable the peace process to move forward and help it escape the conditions it is now facing. The issue is not one of Israeli concessions, as Rabin claims it to be, because the occupied territory is Arab territory, and there can be no peace without the retrieval of all that territory.

AL-THAWRAH discusses Israel's threat, which was made through its chief delegate to the talks with the Palestinians in Washington, to freeze the peace talks if the Arabs insist on including Jerusalem in the transitional period agreement.

AL-THAWRAH says: This threat, which painted a dark, bleak picture of the future of the entire peace process, clearly reveals the inflexible mentality that governs the Israeli attitude inside the negotiating rooms and explains the reasons behind the failure of all previous rounds of talks. The threat also indicates the future which one can expect for the 10th and subsequent rounds.

AL-THAWRAH explains that this threat reveals one fact that should be known to the world community as a whole: namely, that Israel, through its acts, statements, and arguments, is trying to divest the peace process of all

means and factors of success and that it always seeks to infringe on the Arabs' rights and uses feeble excuses to justify its continued occupation of their territory. Until now, Israel has not adopted a single positive position that can give rise to even a little optimism about the possibility of the process reaching its desired objective, the paper adds.

AL-THAWRAH says: Naturally, Israel's continued adherence to its intransigent stands and insistence on adhering to its weird and unacceptable arguments, which fully contradict any move toward a peace that is based on the principle of comprehensiveness and justice, will negatively affect the U.S. credibility and raise many questions regarding the fair, unbiased role that Washington had promised to play but that we have not seen translated into any action on the ground.

AL-THAWRAH adds: Rabin's government would not have maintained an intransigent position and dared to defy the will of peace if it were not assured of Washington's lax and lenient position and if it was not confident that the influential members of the UN Security Council will not take any punitive measure, which would harm Israel's reputation or impose deterring measures against it.

AL-THAWRAH concludes by saying: The world credibility is now facing a practical test, and its reputation hinges on what the world community will do to check the Israeli intransigence and guarantee the Arabs' legitimate and just demands. That credibility can only prove itself by removing all the Israeli hurdles obstructing progress in the peace process.

Bangladesh

Export Earnings Inadequate To Finance Imports

BK2606134193 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH
OBSERVER in English 21 Jun 93 p 7

[By Economic Correspondent]

[Text] Export earnings of Bangladesh, notwithstanding their growth from \$1.9 billion in 1991-92 to an estimated, updated one at \$2.4 billion for 1992-93, are insufficient to finance the demand for imports. Our merchandise import bill will be about \$4.0 billion in 1992-93, as against \$3.46 billion in 1991-92 when there was a contraction in import demand for the second consecutive year because of slowed-down activities in the overall economy. And again Bangladesh's external debt servicing liabilities, though still within manageable limits, thanks to the concessional or grant nature of a substantial amount of external aid disbursements, have, nonetheless, been rising from \$301.7 million in 1989-90 to \$336.6 million in 1991-92 and an estimated amount of \$373.6 million in 1992-93. When industrial activities expand and new investments take place as the government's broad economic policies are aimed at helping them accelerate imports, particularly those of capital goods, will also pick up. To meet the resultant rising import bill, the country has to export more, meaning that it will have to sell additional goods and services in the international markets. Otherwise, the dependence on external borrowings or aid will increase at a time, when the global aid climate is otherwise getting more and more stringent, in general terms.

Bangladesh's gross export earnings are low compared to its neighbours. India exports annually goods and services worth \$19 billion now. Pakistan's annual export earnings are about \$7.0 billion and those of Sri Lanka's are about \$2.9 billion. The neighbouring countries in South Asia have also much higher domestic value added content in their exports than that of Bangladesh. The share of manufactured goods in Bangladesh's exports is only 6 percent compared to 11 percent in Pakistan and 16 percent in Sri Lanka. Viewed in a larger Asian-Pacific regional perspective, our export earnings, as relative to our GDP [gross domestic product], are much lower than those of most other countries.

In the context of this export-import gap the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) in its review strongly pleaded that Bangladesh needs to pursue vigorous export-led development course does hardly require any elaboration. What makes such a course so imperative for the country's sustainable development process, creating income-earning and employment-generating economic activities to help alleviate poverty, is the apparently narrow domestic market size. All the more, the economy, for its greater outwardly look, greater competitive strength, and greater dynamism, with appropriate technology and improved management practices as its main prop, must pursue export-oriented

operations. There is no other way to reduce Bangladesh's existing huge trade imbalances and to meet its growing external debt burden, while at the same time making wider efforts to attain the long-cherished goal of self-reliance.

Only a giant leap forward in exports can help Bangladesh overcome the problems, which are embedded in the structure of its economy. As a nation, we are faced with a combination of severe internal and external difficulties, at times exacerbated again by natural disasters, in achieving any meaningful improvement in the living conditions of our people. Our domestic resource base is narrow. Most of our workforce is engaged in subsistence agriculture—a sector so distinctly marked by its low productivity. Manufacturing sector, dominated by small scale and craft industries, employs only a small part of our workforce and contributes about ten percent to Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

What has been stated above has been the general state of the Bangladesh economy during the last two decades. Undeniably, the country has attained also considerable successes in some specific sectors and sub-sectors of the economy. The most notable, among such success, relate to food production and some export-oriented activities. The garment sector illustrates such successes, without which the economy would have certainly been worse than what it is now. Still then, Bangladesh's exports, other than garments sector, remain, as of now, narrowly-based, composing mainly a few primary and semiprocessed products which are, again, subject to considerable fluctuations in external demand and prices. The country relies too heavily on imported capital machinery and intermediate goods to sustain its industrial activities.

While the imperatives for raising our export earnings are obviously clear, it is nonetheless easier said than done. Bangladesh's natural endowment factors do certainly set some limits on its prospects for export growth. But in an age of fast moving technological changes, such limits have largely lost their relevance. Moreover, our existing potential in many export sectors and sub-sectors, even under the given constraints of natural endowment factors, is still largely untapped. The scope for raising net export earnings through backward linkage efforts in some existing sectors of sub-sectors also remains to be exploited, to a very large extent.

Such a situation calls for specific and concrete efforts, supported by a favourable policy environment, for export diversification. Garments with backward integration, leather goods and footwear, frozen food and shrimps, electronics, food processing etc, in non-traditional sectors and also traditional export sectors and sub-sectors merit here for action-oriented and specific product development measures. Promotion in this respect should concentrate on building necessary facilities. Such export activities need to expand themselves through special incentives to stimulate their development. In this process, the government can be most helpful by refraining itself from too much interference in

business. It should instead allow the private sector to develop, by eliminating obstacles that thwart their development. The fiscal policies also need to be effectively tailored to provide incentives to the exporters. What should merit the prime attention of the government is not the mere announcement of an apparently liberal looking export policy but the arrangements for effective implementation thereof. Implementation has indeed been the most important missing link in our national economic policy framework.

Meanwhile, issues and problems which affect adversely the external competitiveness of the Bangladesh economy vis-a-vis the competing neighbouring countries deserve a priority attention. Such issues relate to export incentives and facilities, fiscal support arrangements, labour market situation and wages structure, pricing for utility or infrastructural inputs, exchange rate adjustment factors, etc, the review opined.

India

Congress-I Meets, Condemns Communalism

BK2606164493 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The Congress-I says under the leadership of Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, the party is fully prepared to wage a war to defeat divisive forces. In its political resolution passed at the end of the one-day Congress Working Committee [CWC] meeting in Bhopal today, the party said the time has come to expose and defeat the diabolical plan of the Sangh Parivar [Bharatiya Janata Party, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, and allied groups] and Jamaat-i-Islami. It said these forces are trying to disrupt the secular and democratic polity through hatred.

Strongly criticizing the Sangh Parivar, the resolution said the forces of communalism are engaged in their game plan of division, calumny, and innuendo. They have now launched a tirade against the office of the prime minister through a known offender. The party has urged the government to ensure that secular politics alone are allowed in our polity under the secular Constitution.

In its resolution on agriculture passed unanimously, the CWC urged the government to announce procurement prices well before the sowing season as a matter of policy. It has called for early announcement of the export policy regime and a new system for battling problems of tobacco and cotton growers. The resolution expressed its deep gratitude to the farmers for achieving an all-time record food grain production and making the country self-sufficient in oil seeds. It said that because of efforts made by farmers, the country could earn foreign exchange worth 8,000 crore rupees by exporting agricultural and marine products.

Later, briefing newsmen, the party spokesman, Mr. V.N. Gadgil, said that all the CWC members except Mr.

Pawar attended the two-and-one-half-hour meeting. The Maharashtra chief minister could not attend because he was indisposed. The chief ministers of Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab, and Karnataka attended the meeting. Mr. V.C. Shukla, Mr. S.C. Shukla, Mr. G.K. Moopanar, and Mr. Digvijay Singh also attended the CWC meeting as special invitees.

Rao Discusses Foreign Assistance, Ayodhya

BK2606162493 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The prime minister has asserted that the government will not accept any amount of foreign aid from any quarter at the cost of the country's prestige. Addressing a public meeting at the Lal Parade Ground in Bhopal this evening, Mr. Narasimha Rao said many agencies which were reluctant to provide finances to us because of the dismal economic situation are now eager to offer any amount of aid following improvement in the economic scene in recent days. The prime minister said, we will accept only those offers that do not demand us to compromise our national policies.

Referring to the benefit of the liberalized industrial policy, the prime minister said the country today has clearance of foreign industrial investment to the tune of 62,000 crore rupees. This is likely to increase to two lakh crore rupees in the next two years, he added.

AIR [All India Radio] Bhopal correspondent reports that in his half-hour speech marked by frequent applause from the mammoth gathering, the prime minister repeatedly emphasized that whatever little gains the government has been able to achieve can be preserved only through devotion, unity, and hard work.

Referring to the Ayodhya tangle, Mr. Narasimha Rao reiterated that the temple and the mosque will be constructed on the land now acquired by the government but this will be constructed only by nonpolitical agencies. He declared that those playing politics in the name of religion will never be allowed to associate themselves with the construction.

Earlier, at a function at Raj Bhavan, the prime minister distributed the pass books for payment of bonus to the kendu leaves [used in manufacture of cigarettes] workers. He called for setting up a special fund for development of tribal people with contribution from both the center and the state government.

CPI Urges Unity Against BJP, Nao Resignation

BK2906162293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The Communist Party of India [CPI] has called upon all secular parties to unite against the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] to ensure that it does not come to power at the center. Briefing newsmen in New Delhi today about the just concluded national council meeting, the party general secretary, Mr. Indrajit Gupta,

said there will be a serious threat to unity of the country if the BJP comes to power. In a reference to the security scam, he said Mr. Narasimha Rao should step down to depose before the JPC [Joint Parliamentary Committee] for a fair inquiry and could return as prime minister if proved innocent.

Indrajit Gupta Elected CPI Chief for Third Term

BK2806043393 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] The CPI [Communist Party of India] has called for unity among the left, democratic, and secular forces to fight communal elements and counter the challenges posed by separatist forces in the country. In a political resolution adopted at the four-day meeting of the party national convention, which concluded in New Delhi yesterday, it urged the prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, to take appropriate steps to clear the alleged political payoff charges.

Meanwhile, the CPI National Council has reelected Mr. Indrajit Gupta as the general secretary of the party for the third consecutive term.

NSCN Militants, Soldiers Clash in Manipur; 31 Dead

BK2906161493 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] In Manipur, 31 persons including 22 jawans [soldiers] of the Assam Regiment were killed by in an ambush by the National Socialist Council of Nagaland, NSCN, militants near (Tenugopal) in (Chandel) District this morning. According to police sources in Imphal, those killed included four civilians and two underground members of the extremist camp. Three bodies are yet to be identified. The incident occurred when a convoy of the Assam Regiment carrying explosives was suddenly attacked by the militants on the Imphal-Mori Road.

Paper Calls For Closer Ties With Sri Lanka

BK2906063893 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 24 Jun 93 p 8

[Editorial: "Indo-Sri Lankan Ties"]

[Text] The new Sri Lankan Prime Minister, Ranil Wickremasinghe's talks in New Delhi could well mark the beginning of a genuine reconciliation between the two neighbours. The bitterness caused in Sri Lanka by the involvement of the Indian Peace-Keeping Force in its ethnic strife began to dissolve after its complete withdrawal in 1990. That the Indian troops went there under a bilateral agreement and, what is more, because of India's commitment to the preservation of Sri Lanka's integrity could not detract from the fundamentally flawed nature of the whole exercise. Nationalist sentiment often defies logic. The late Ranasinghe Premadasa, as is well known, personified the Sri Lankan hostility towards India at that time. Although he seemed inclined

to bury the hatchet after the return of the Indian troops, he did not show any marked interest in hastening restoration of cordial ties. The new leadership which has taken over in Colombo after the shocking assassination of Premadasa seems, however, to be free from any hang-up.

Ranil Wickremasinghe rightly highlighted the two countries' community of interests inasmuch as both are democracies and have embarked on economic liberalisation. In fact, it is time India and Sri Lanka translated political platitudes into concrete steps of economic collaboration for mutual benefit. Significantly, the Sri Lankan Prime Minister noted, after his talks with his Indian counterpart, that if the two countries liberalised their trade further, apart from enlarging economic co-operation in general, they might encourage the other members of the South Asian Association of Regional Co-operation to follow suit. The immediate task before SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] is to make a reality of the much-talked of South Asia Preferential Trading Area. Despite several rounds of discussion of this proposal before as well as at the last SAARC summit at Dhaka, substantial headway has proved elusive. The importance of an Indo-Sri Lankan initiative, as indicated by Wickremasinghe, to liberalise at least bilateral trade, to start with, is thus obvious. A heavy responsibility rests in this connection on the Indo-Sri Lankan Joint Commission to, meet in Colombo in August. Let it show that it is there not just to replace the rhetoric of political co-operation with sweet economic generalities.

It is in the nature of the complex skein of Indo-Sri Lankan relationship that even when both sides make a determined effort to concentrate on turning the economic opportunity to maximum mutual benefit, other delicate issues might cast their shadows from time to time. The repatriation of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees, for instance, is still far too slow. The more serious problem awaiting a negotiated settlement in Sri Lanka is, of course, that of giving the Tamil minority there genuine autonomy. This calls for considerable tact as well as vision.

Political Turbulence in Pakistan Examined

BK3006041093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Commentary by Islamabad correspondent Suresh Chopra]

[Text] Turbulence has once again taken over Pakistan politics following the high drama involving the Punjab Province. Hopes that the political situation would gradually stabilize following the restoration of Nawaz Sharif as prime minister of Pakistan in the wake of the historic Supreme Court judgment last month were soon dashed when the Punjab Governor Chaudhry Altaf Hussain, the nominee of the President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, dissolved the provincial assembly and installed Mr. Sharif's

archival in the province, Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Wattoo, as the caretaker chief minister. The move was clearly aimed at depriving Mr. Nawaz Sharif of his power base. The leader of the opposition in Punjab, Chaudry Baizaz Elahi, a close confidant of Mr. Sharif, immediately filed a writ petition in the Lahore High Court challenging the governor's dissolution order. Thereafter began a bizarre chain of events.

The secretary of the assembly, Mr. Habibullah, who was one of the key witnesses in the case before the high court, was missing and is still untraceable. The majority of members of the assembly who had ditched Mr. Sharif switched their loyalties back to him. In order to prevent their being arrested or harassed by the Wattoo government, the entire lot of the members were herded into the capital Islamabad and housed in a five star hotel. The Lahore high court accepted Mr. Baizaz Elahi's writ petition on Monday [28 June] and restored the provincial assembly. There was no doubt in anybody's mind that the minute the assembly would meet for its budget session scheduled for today the Elahi group would move a no-confidence motion against Mr. Wattoo and vote him out of power. The Punjab governor once again dissolved the assembly and installed Mr. Wattoo as the caretaker chief minister.

Anticipating the turn of events, Mr. Nawaz Sharif had already summoned a joint sitting of parliament yesterday. Despite stiff resistance from the opposition benches, the parliamentary affairs minister, Chaudhry Amin Hussain, managed to push through a resolution asking President Ishaq Khan to impose direct rule in the province under Article 234 of the Constitution.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has responded to parliament resolution with a speed that has amazed many. In a late night proclamation, all power of the Punjab has been transferred to the federal government with immediate effect, thereby placing the province under the direct control of the Nawaz Sharif government. Moving swiftly, Mr. Mohammad Azar has been restored as the Punjab governor and the chief secretary and the inspector general of police have been replaced. While Mrs. Benazir Bhutto has threatened to take to the streets, the dismissed chief minister, Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Wattoo, has announced that he will challenge the resolution in the Supreme Court. There is no doubt that uncertainty and instability will continue to dog Pakistan politics for quite some time to come.

Iran

National Security Council Aide Condemns U.S. 'Bullying'

LD2906162193 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English* 1130 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The secretary of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Supreme National Security Council [SNSC] yesterday, in an interview, said: The recent attacks of America

against Baghdad and Somalia are signs of bullying attitude of the United States, and also a covering up of the domestic problem of that country and the grave defeat of the Democratic Party of America.

The deputy speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and the chairman of the SNSC of Iran, Dr. Hasan Rowhani, referring to the silence of the United Nations and the Security Council, has pointed out: These events are the worst scandals for the Security Council, one of whose members attacked a country without consulting others and then reported the event to the Council later.

Dr. Rowhani, referring to the comments of the U.S. secretary of state, who said that the U.S. attack on Baghdad has also been a warning to Iran, stressed that this is indicative of Christopher's lack of understanding and viewing correctly the political issues. He pointed out: America is no more the leader of the world, and no one in the East or West pays attention to America.

He added: The U.S. confrontation with the Islamic Republic of Iran is obvious now, and we are prepared to deal with the problems.

Commentary Criticizes Justification for U.S. Strike

NC2906204693 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic* 1655 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Station commentary: "On the Sidelines of the UN Security Council Meeting To Discuss the U.S. Missile Attack on Iraq"]

[Text] According to Article 51 of the UN Charter, any measure taken by a country under the justification of self-defense must meet certain conditions to give it legitimacy. International legal experts believe such a measure could be considered legitimate self-defense if it is equal to an attack by the other side or if it responds to a hostile attack.

The U.S. justification for the missile attack on Iraq, claiming it is a response to an Iraqi attack, or rather an attempted attack on one of its citizens, does not meet the article's legal conditions. The U.S. justification says the missile attack on Baghdad was a response to an attempt to assassinate George Bush in Kuwait three months ago. Clearly, this justification is based on a hypothesis. The reaction to this hypothesis comes three months later. Can such an act be considered legitimate self-defense? Assuming that the appropriate conditions for self-defense are available, some proportionality between the hostile attack and the response to it would be necessary.

The U.S. cruise missiles hammered the heart of the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, only in retaliation for Iraq's attempt to assassinate a U.S. citizen and the assumption there was such an attempt. America claims its missiles targeted the headquarters of Iraqi intelligence; however, international reports confirmed the missiles attacked residential

areas and caused huge damage among civilian ranks. U.S. sources admitted that at least six Iraqi citizens were killed. This goes against the principle of self-defense and human rights, which decry attacks on civilians. In accordance with this assumption, the Clinton administration is responsible for killing and wounding defenseless citizens in Baghdad.

Article 51 of the UN Charter stipulates that legitimate self-defense can only take place after all other nonmilitary measures have been taken to discipline the aggressor. If such measures fail, the wronged party can then respond militarily. Three months passed before the United States carried out a sudden, fierce missile attack on Baghdad without warning. It caused huge losses among Iraqi citizens.

The U.S. permanent representative [to the UN Security Council] attempted to weasel his way out of this clear point of weakness in the U.S. logic by claiming Washington believes that any political or economic measures to deter Saddam will not work, hence its decision to direct a military attack against him. The issue the U.S. representative did not address is that the alleged assassination attempt failed; however, the U.S. missiles did fall on civilians.

We must contemplate the use of the Security Council and whether its duty is restricted to hiding legitimacy or legitimizing actions and measures that have already occurred. Or is the duty of this international organization to contain the actions of countries inside the framework of international law to prevent anarchy and war from spreading? The United States attacked first, then called the Security Council to hold an emergency meeting. It placed its personal political interests above the interests and will of all others. It then sought to confine international laws within the framework of its interests, not the contrary, which is what should happen.

If such views and methods spread, the world could approach madness, where state terrorism will get worse and weak countries will always be the first victims.

U.S. 'Failure' in Bosnia Undermines Credibility

NC2606123793 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL
in English 16 Jun 93 p 2

[Editorial: "What New World Order?"]

[Text] The western world's failure to bring an end to the ongoing Bosnian tragedy through diplomatic or military means is not just a moral but also a political setback of monumental proportions.

To the Americans the political repercussions of having failed to restore peace to the Balkan region as a result of apathy, fear or intent are even more intense. For one thing, it helped put the epitaph on the new world order whose architect was the Bush administration and through which the Americans tried to claim the world

leadership in a new and more concerted fashion in a unipolar world in the wake of the collapse of the Soviet Union.

When the idea of the new world order first appeared in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf war, it produced concerns in some Third World countries. They were justifiably worried about their status in the then so-called new system. The feeling was that the American-designed new world system was no fad, but something that had received adequate consideration, enjoyed the support of the centers of power in America and, most important of all, that America was willing to put the necessary commitment behind it.

But when the order was put into practice and to test in the Balkan tragedy it was found out that the necessary commitment was lacking. The outcome for America was the loss of credibility, followed by what had remained of the leadership. The profound loss of leadership came because of the number of times Washington equivocated on the Bosnian issue: a much ballyhooed proposal after another all of which failed which, in the meantime, emboldened the Serbs.

The Bosnian test has served to make America look like a "paper tiger", a helpless giant cracking under its own weight or more so like an old, toothless dragon. The international public opinion following the brutalizing of the Bosnians by the Serbs is for Washington to come up with a solution to stop the Serbians or at least keep quiet and not raise expectations by coming up with something and quietly backing out. This kind of uncertain behavior by America makes it look like an inept "friend" in the eyes of the Bosnians.

Of course, Washington is not ready to admit failure and tries to reassert itself here and there and toward this or that secondary international issue. The U.S. Air Force assisting the U.N. peace-keeping forces to restore calm in Somalia or the U.S. secretary of state's trip to different parts of the world—Turkey, for instance—are done with that intention. But no matter how skillfully America tries to divert attention away from the real crisis point, it will not be able to soothe the damage inflicted against its credibility as a result of the heart-rending savagery against the Bosnians, specially against the innocent children, whose bad luck is that they are caught in the middle of a game of international politicking.

By its lack of determination and fluctuating policies toward the Bosnian tragedy, Washington is not being neutral to the crisis as it tries to suggest, but is being a party to it. By its faltering, if not intentional, Washington is actually giving the Serbs a kind of signal to carry on with what it is doing.

It is hard to believe that the Americans and their European allies are unable to arrive at a consensus toward such an important issue. The problem looks more like a lack of will.

The Muslim Serbs are facing single-handedly the western apathy and Serbian sophisticated arms and brutality. There is, of course, some U.N. help and western tokens of sympathy but they are not enough to divert Serbian artillery and rocket fires. No matter what the outcome of their country's crisis, the Bosnians will come out as moral victors.

Let's also add that the western fear that lifting the arms embargo on warring parties in the former Yugoslavia and supplying the Muslim Bosnians with arms would trigger an all-out Serb offensive is only an attempt to keep the status quo, because the worst that some fear is already there. Let's also hope that those in a decision-making positions toward world crisis would find some compassion in their hearts and not allow savagery against a whole nation or a whole generation for political expedience.

Velayati Receives Swiss Deputy Economy Minister

*LD2706144693 Tehran IRNA in English 1421 GMT
27 Jun 93*

[Text] Tehran, June 27, IRNA—After the collapse of communism, the Islamic Republic of Iran has turned into a bridge linking now independent republics of former Soviet Union with other parts of the world, visiting Swiss Deputy Economic Minister Franz Belankard [name as received] said here Sunday [27 June].

In a meeting with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Belankard said Iran was considered an economically important center in the region because of its plentiful resources and capacity.

The latest developments in Europe and the Balkans particularly the tragedy of Bosnia-Herzegovina were also discussed by the two who expressed their deep concern about the ongoing massacre of Bosnian Muslims and the intensification of clashes there.

To this end, Velayati voiced the Islamic Republic's full support for the innocent people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Referring to Iran-Switzerland long historical ties, Velayati said Iran was ready for cooperation with Switzerland at mutual and regional levels with regards to its distinct geographical location in the region.

Meanwhile, Belankard described Velayati's recent visit to Switzerland as "constructive and fruitful" and the lecture he delivered during the international forum foundation seminar as "very important." During the seminar held in the Swiss town of Crans Montana this month, Velayati outlined the Islamic Republic's viewpoints on developments in Central Asia and the Balkans especially in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Visiting German Business Group Head Notes Rising Trade

*LD2806122893 Tehran IRNA in English 1210 GMT
28 Jun 93*

[Text] Tabriz, E. Azerbaijan Prov., June 28, IRNA—Iran and Germany exchanged commodities worth at German Mark (DM) 9.1 billion in 1992, an increase of over eight percent compared to the previous year.

Visiting German Co-Chairman of Iran-Germany Chamber of Commerce and Industry Marx Landa [name as received] said that Iran's share in bilateral exchange was DM 1.1 billion.

He added that non-oil products such as carpet, dried fruits as well as mineral and industrial products, with a value of DM 944 million, were exported to Germany during the said period.

Iran's policy of privatization and stabilization of foreign exchange rates promised further expansion of bilateral cooperation and relations in industrial and trade sectors, Landa said.

He added that the border province of East Azerbaijan could serve as a bridge for trilateral economic cooperation between Iran, Germany and the newly-independent Central Asian Republics.

The German official in a meeting with the province governor general discussed ways of broadening industrial and trade cooperation between his country and the province.

Sri Lankan Parliamentary Speaker Arrives

*LD2806104693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT
28 Jun 93*

[Text] The Sri Lankan parliamentary speaker, heading a political parliamentary delegation, was welcomed by the Majles speaker upon arrival in Tehran this morning.

The Sri Lankan parliamentary speaker, Mohammad Haniffa Mohammad, who has traveled to our country at the invitation of Majles Speaker Ahmad Nateq-Nuri, hoped that his trip would further strengthen and expand relations between Iran and Sri Lanka. He said the aim of his trip was to pursue relations and exchange views on areas of cooperation.

In his turn, Majles Speaker Nateq-Nuri said that parliamentary relations could be a suitable prelude to the establishment and expansion of political and economic relations and added that the trip of the Sri Lankan parliamentary speaker to Iran would be effective in furthering cooperation between the two countries.

Pointing to common cultural elements and suitable cooperation between Iran and Sri Lanka, particularly in the Nonaligned Movement as well as the interparliamentary meetings, he said: In talks with the Sri Lankan

parliamentary speaker we will discuss the creation of friendship and parliamentary groups as well as the expansion of cultural relations.

Sri Lankan Parliamentary Speaker Mohammad Hanif Mohammad and his entourage will stay in our country for six days, during which they will visit the holy shrine of his eminence Imam Khomeyni—may he be admitted to God's paradise—to pay their respect to the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and will meet with a number of senior officials of our country.

Received by Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD2906103493 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT
29 Jun 93

[Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani this morning received Mohammad Hanif Mohammad, speaker of Sri Lanka's Parliament. In the course of this meeting the president expressed hope for greater cooperation between the Iranian and Sri Lankan friendship and parliamentary groups, and stressed the need for finding new grounds of cooperation between the two countries. Referring to the difficulties raised against the Islamic countries by the enemies, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed the need for greater utilization of resources and creation of unity and solidarity among these countries to foil the malicious deeds of the enemies. In conclusion the president welcomed the strengthening of ties in all fields of mutual interest between the two countries.

At this meeting, the speaker of Sri Lanka's parliament conveyed warm greetings from his country's president, and described the level of relations between Iran and Sri Lanka as very desirable. He said: Sri Lanka has enjoyed the work of Iranian experts in our country. We hope that through strengthening of parliamentary cooperation we will witness further expansion of our ties.

Mr. Mohammad thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for its principled stances at the international arena and said: The issues of Bosnia-Herzegovina concern us and all Muslims, and the Islamic countries must take more serious measures to assist this country. Noting that Sri Lanka is aware of Iran's political support and humanitarian assistance to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, he said: We are proud of this fact and so should the entire people of the world. In conclusion Mr. Mohammad presented a report on the latest developments in his country.

Transport Agreements Signed With Uzbekistan

LD2606190693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT
26 Jun 93

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Uzbekistan have reached agreement on the expansion of cooperation in rail, air, and road transport. According to the Central News Unit, on the basis of the memorandum of understanding, the two sides will cooperate in the

construction of the Mashhad-Sarakhs railway and on the formation of a joint railway company. The Islamic Republic of Iran has also said it is prepared to construct a concrete producing plant in Uzbekistan.

In the field of road transport, it was decided that the Islamic Republic of Iran's experts will undertake the necessary studies to assess Uzbekistan's road transport capabilities and draw up plans for increased cooperation in this area. The Islamic Republic of Iran will also provide the necessary facilities for Uzbekistan's imports.

Roads and Transport Minister Mohammad Sa'idi-Kia signed the agreement in Tehran today and it is to be implemented after being signed by his Uzbek counterpart.

A separate memorandum of understanding was also signed in Tehran today on cooperation on rail and road transport by the deputy minister of roads and transport and his Uzbek counterpart.

Study Set With Russia on Rising Caspian Waters

LD2906165193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT
29 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Articles of a charter [asasnameh] on setting up a Caspian Sea joint study center between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Russian Federation have been signed by representatives of the two countries.

The head of the Research and Study Center for the Caspian Sea Water Sources said when announcing this news: On the basis of this charter, the Caspian Sea littoral states will coordinate all the activities on studies, research, and implementation of projects to halt sea encroachment. The republics of Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Azerbaijan will soon join the fold of this charter's signatories. [passage omitted].

Regarding the activities undertaken by Iran, the head of the center said: Thanks to a proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran and endorsement by the Republic of Turkmenistan, a canal which allows water to enter the Qara Boghaz bay has been opened; as a result the rising water along the coasts of the Caspian Sea littoral states has subsided. He added: This center has also identified the damaged regions along the Iranian coastal strip and has implemented emergency projects to build sea walls in several places including Tonekabon. He announced that a seminar will be held in Ramsar 9-12 October with the participation of research workers from Iran, Russia, and other littoral states of the Caspian Sea to discuss the causes of the rising sea level.

Military Justice Official Comments on Trials

LD2806154893 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Law enforcement forces must, in accordance with the orders of the esteemed leader, protect the prescribers

of virtue and proscribers of vice in the society, announced Mr. Yunesi, head of the Armed Forces judicial organization, at a news conference today. He pointed out that if a member of the Armed Forces is negligent in this matter, he will be guilty of an offense and prosecuted by the Armed Forces judicial organization. The public can put forward their complaints to the branches of the organization all over the country.

Mr. Yunesi said the establishment of a specialized military court was aimed at speedier and more accurate enforcement of the law. He pointed out that the accused in military cases, like ordinary defendants, can have defense counsel. They can present to the Supreme Court their objections to the rulings of the military court.

Charger/Discharger Machine for F-7s, MiGs Manufactured

LD2806151893 Tehran IRNA in English 1439 GMT 28 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 28, IRNA—The engineering research center of the Air Force has manufactured a charger/discharger machine for F-7 and MiG-29 aircraft.

The machine is capable of measuring down to one-tenth of voltage and is more advanced in terms of accuracy and control and warning systems, while as much as 20 times cheaper in terms of costs as compared with foreign made machines.

According to its manufacturer the domestic-made machine is digital and full automatic, and is capable of simultaneous charging and discharging.

The machine is said to be more efficient than the foreign-made types with the least disadvantages like sound, noise, and temperature. "90 percent of its parts have been made in Iran, and the remaining 10 percent whose manufacture is a monopoly, was imported," he added.

*** Japan To Help Build Karun-4 Dam, Power Plant**

93LA0083A Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian 9 Jun 93 p 10

[Report on interview with Dr. Mohsen Nurbakhsh, minister of economic affairs and finance, by unidentified IRNA correspondent; place and date not given]

[Text] Tehran. KEYHAN-E HAVA'I. 9 Khordad [30 May]. Japan will provide Iran with 38,614,000,000 yen to carry out the construction of the Karun-4 dam and power plant.

According to a report by the press section of the Japanese Embassy in Tehran, this amount in loans will be spent on the implementation of the Karun-4 dam and hydroelectric power plant, known as "Godarland."

The official note of the start of cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Japan on this project, which has the prior approved by the cabinet of Japan, was signed and exchanged this week between Dr. 'Ali Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs, and Tsuneo Oyake, the Japanese ambassador in Tehran.

This project, which is an important developmental project of the Islamic Republic of Iran, includes the construction of a gravel dam 170 meters high at the western end of the Karun River and also a power plant with an initial capacity of 1,000 megawatts [MW], which can be expanded to 2,000 MW.

The foreign currency expenditures of this project will be provided through a long-term interest-free loan with a service charge of 3 percent, and the period of repayment is 25 years, with payments beginning after seven years.

This project is supposed to reach operation in 1381 [21 Mar 2002-20 Mar 2003].

The Karun-4 project is the largest long-term fundamental project of Iran with a foreign country and at the same time is an example of the long-term cooperation of Iran, with easy conditions, which will be implemented based on political understanding and deep and extended relations with an industrial country.

In an interview with IRNA concerning this preferred credit, Dr. Mohsen Nurbakhsh, the minister of economic affairs and finance, said: This kind of credit was placed at the disposal of the Government of Iran within the framework of developmental cooperation, and its conditions are quite different from the usual conditions of commercial credit facilities. In other words, the cost of these preferred funds that will be placed at the disposal of Iran will be 3 percent, and the period for repayment is 25 years, which means that payments start seven years after the use of credit begins and will end in 18 years.

In response to the question of whether the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance has the necessary permit to make use of this credit, Dr. Nurbakhsh said: Based on Paragraph G of Note 29 of the First Five-Year Plan, the government has the permission to make use of foreign credit to build four dams, including the Karun-4 dam, up to the amount of \$3 billion.

He said: Since the victory of the Islamic revolution, this is the first time that preferred credit facilities have been used within the framework of mutual relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and other countries. What has now been agreed to is in conformity with the standards of both Japan and our country, especially our standards, including political and economic independence.

In response to the question of whether the construction of the dam will also be done by the Japanese, the minister of economic affairs and finance said: Not necessarily. The steps taken to construct this dam are exactly like those when domestic resources are used, that

is, it will be necessary for various sections of the dam to be put up for international bidding, and whoever wins these bids will participate in the work. Now, if a Japanese company wins it, that is another matter.

In response to the question of whether the Islamic Republic of Iran has accepted obligations in exchange for use of this credit, he said: No. Agreements in this case have been reached only with regard to the size of economic cooperation between the two countries, good intentions on both sides, and especially the trust and belief of the government of Japan in the political and economic stability of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In conclusion, he said: The cost of the implementation of this project has been estimated at about \$1,231,000,000 and 443.86 billion rials. What the Government of Japan will place at the disposal of the government of Iran through the Overseas Cooperation Fund is the total foreign currency needs of the project, that is, \$1,231,000,000 billion. The present announced amount, which is estimated at about \$320 million, is the amount that the Government of Japan has allocated in its current budget to this matter. Obviously, the needed foreign currency for the project will be included, in proportion to the progress of the work, in the future budgets of the government of Japan and placed at the disposal of the project.

*** Abadan Petrochemical Complex Operational Again**

93LA0083C Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
26 May 93 p 11

[Text] Tehran. KEYHAN-E HAVA'I News Service. 29 Ordibehesht [19 May]. The chloralkali unit of the Abadan Petrochemical Complex, with an annual capacity of 36,400 tons of chloric gas and 29,700 tons of caustic soda, will be operational next week.

According to a report by the Public Relations Office of the old Petrochemical Manufacturing Unit for Chloric Gas and Caustic Soda, the Abadan Petrochemical Complex, with a nominal annual capacity of 22,000 tons of chloric gas and 24,000 tons of caustic soda, was established in 1346 [21 Mar 1967-20 Mar 1968] and was totally destroyed during the war.

Because this unit is an essential part of the complex, and its products are used in other units of the complex, with the start of the reconstruction of the complex, the project to build this unit was studied, and ultimately the engineering and equipment procurement agreement was signed with the De Nora Company of Italy, and the construction was done by the Petrochemical Industries Engineering and Construction Company.

This unit is built for the electrolyzing of salt in mercury cells. The needed salt is extracted from the sea by the Petrochemical Company of Bandar-e Imam and its needed electricity by the Khuzestan Water and Electricity Organization.

*** New Customs Import Regulations Detailed**

93LA0083B Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
26 May 93 p 10

[Text] Tehran. 16 Ordibehesht [16 May].

The Customs of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced the new regulations concerning the import of foreign goods.

Morteza Mohammad-Khan, the director general of the National Customs, in a speech referred to Note 21 of the budget law of this year and also the circular letter of the Central Bank concerning the prohibition on imported goods without the transfer of foreign currency and explained the conditions for release of goods from the National Customs.

He said: According to facilities that have been provided, all goods without the transfer of foreign currency that enter the National Customs until 24/02/1372 [12 May 1993] will be released without need for registering the order or notification of the Central Bank as usual, in accordance with the export and import regulations.

Also, all goods without the transfer of foreign currency, the date of the transportation invoice that begins on 24/02/1372, provided they enter the country by 15/03/1372 [5 Jun 1993], shall be released without need for registering the order or notification of the Central Bank.

According to him, applicants who are not eligible for the two above-mentioned paragraphs but who have submitted their application to the Central Bank by 08/02/1372 [28 Apr 1993] may, if they meet the requirements, receive the necessary permit, on a case-by-case basis, for the release of their goods from the Office of Foreign Currency Policies and Regulations of the Central Bank.

Mohammad-Khan explained that samples, gifts, replacements for defective goods in the original contract, imported goods in accordance with warranties, and the like will continue to be released without the transfer of foreign currency.

Also, the release of imported goods from the export foreign currency funds is permitted, provided the orders have been made prior to the date of the transportation of the goods and within the initial deadline of the foreign currency contract. The banks that register the order are responsible for endorsing the documents of the imported goods from the export contract fund and placing them at the disposal of the importer for the purpose of the release of goods.

Mohammad-Khan continued: Books and publications will continue to be released, up to \$5,000 worth, without the transfer of foreign currency.

Stating that throughout the world, the import of goods is handled through the banking system, he said: Carrying out the affairs concerning the import of goods into the country by the banking system is necessary.

Mohammad-Khan said: The government will continue to subsidize pharmaceutical projects, and the import of pharmaceutical products will continue at the 70-rial foreign currency rate. The director of Customs said in conclusion: The foreign trade of the country must conform to the banking system by acquiring facilities and privileges. This will reduce the demand for foreign currency on the open market and give the initiative and control to the banking system.

* Reasons for Shortages of Medicines Detailed

93LA0083E Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
19 May 93 p 8

[By Faramarz Gharabaghi, News Service]

[Text] While various kinds of unnecessary goods are imported by the private sector, the cooperatives, and sometimes the government sector, spending large sums of foreign currency, the procurement of one of the most vital items needed by the people, which directly concerns their health, that is, medicine, has faced problems due to the shortage of foreign currency. Of course, if we want to compare the present situation of the price of medicine in the country with other neighboring countries and even the world, the price of medicine in Iran is far less expensive and lower than in other countries, because so far, medicine has well as the raw materials needed by the pharmaceutical factories of the country was imported at the government foreign currency rate, which guaranteed the low price of medicine. This situation even had caused the illegal smuggling of medicine from the country to the neighboring countries. Nevertheless, for some time now, the import of medicine has stopped or been reduced. On the other hand, the officials and owners of pharmaceutical companies in the country claim that foreign producers have stopped time credit sales (usance) of raw materials for manufacturing medicine to Iran and only sell medicine to Iran for cash. This has had an unpleasant effect on the import of medicine to Iran and its production in the country. Moreover, it is said that the fluctuation of the foreign currency rate in the monetary market of the country and the expectation of the owners of the domestic pharmaceutical factories that the prices will increase in the near future has caused them to avoid sufficient distribution of medicine in the country.

The chaotic situation that is unwanted at the same time, which has been created in the distribution of medicine throughout the country, is the result of lack of planning by the related institutions and organizations in estimating the level of consumption, purchasing, and distribution of medicine in the country. Of course, it must be admitted that the level of medicine consumption in Iran is very high, and this is due to the improper use of medicine in this country. Both physicians and those who receive treatment and medical services are inclined to prescribe and use more medicine. If proper planning is made in this regard, certainly there will be a change in the attitude toward medicine consumption in the

country. Nevertheless, it seems that still no proper classification has been determined for the import of essential and needed items in the country, including medicine.

It seems, first, that the government must engage in essential planning and steps in this area and that arrangements be made for a major part of the investments and foreign currency revenues of the country to be spent on the import of essential goods, rather than for the private sector to spend the foreign currency revenues of the country on the import of unnecessary and perhaps luxury items. Clearly, the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education, particularly the pharmaceutical deputy minister of this ministry, are responsible for immediately presenting an acceptable plan to solve the problems of the distribution of medicine in the country, and this must be done as soon as possible.

* Appointments to Various Offices Announced

* 21 Apr Appointments

93LA0082A Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
21 Apr 93 p 4

[Text] In separate decrees by Hojjat ol-Eslam Rahimian, representative of the religious guardian and head of the Shahid Foundation, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mehdi Ja'farian was appointed as the head of the Shahid Foundation in the city of Rey and Mohammad Reza Amir-Hoseyni as the director general of the Shahid Foundation in the province of Tehran, and they began their duties.

According to a report by the Public Relations Office of the Ministry of Islamic Culture and Guidance, in a decree by Dr. 'Ali Larijani, Mansur Va'ez was appointed as adviser to the minister and director general of Islamic Culture and Guidance in the province of Tehran and began his duties.

In accordance with a decree by Engineer Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh, the minister of industries and head of the General Assembly of the Iranian Handicraft Industries Organization, Hamid Reza Morteza'i was appointed as the general manager of this organization.

* 5 May Appointments

93LA0082B Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
5 May 93 p 4

[Text] In separate decrees by Engineer Mallaki, the minister of energy and head of the Tavanir Company, Habibollah Ravandi, Mahmud Harir Forush, and Mohammad Hoseyn Dirafzun were appointed for a period of two years as members of the Board of Directors of the Rex Electricity Production Management Company.

According to the Public Relations Office of the Plan and Budget Organization, in accordance with separate decrees, Mohammad 'Abbasi was appointed as the

director general of the Director's Office of Organization and Evaluation, and Seyyed Mojtaba Hashemi was appointed as the director general of the Public Relations and International Affairs Office of this organization, and they began their duties.

In a decree by Dr. Manati, vice president and head of the Environmental Protection Organization, Naser Soroush was appointed as the adviser to this organization for environmental research in the four regions, offering standards and public opinion education.

'Ali Akbar Rahmani, the deputy minister of interior and head of the Registration Organization, issued decrees appointing Seyyed Hesam Hoseyni as the administrative director general and Seyyed 'Ali Musavi as the director general of the Office of Research and Planning of this organization.

In ceremonies in the presence of the law enforcement commander of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the headquarters of the Kurdistan Security Region, Guard Corps General Hasan Rastegarpanah was appointed as the next commander of this region, and the services of Gen. Mohammad Sane'i were praised.

* 19 May Appointments

93LA0082C Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
19 May 93 p 4

[Text] According to a decree by the head of the Foundation for the Oppressed and Self-Sacrificers of the Islamic Revolution, Engineer 'Ali Monzavi was appointed as the deputy director of the Foundation and head of the Mines Organization of the Foundation for the Oppressed and Self-Sacrificers.

Dr. Yusef Sobuti was appointed by the minister of culture and higher education as the secretary general of the Regional Office of the network of the Third World Scientific Organization. He is now a member of the Iranian Academy of Sciences and head of the Center for Complementary Education of the University of Zanjan.

In separate decrees by the minister of culture and higher education, Dr. Taqi Shamekhi and Dr. Hashem Musavi were appointed as the presidents of the Teacher Training Universities of Kashan and Zanjan, respectively.

* 26 May Appointments

93LA0082D Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
26 May 93 p 4

[Text] In a decree by Dr. 'Ali Larijani, the minister of Islamic culture and guidance, Dr. Akbar Haj Ebrahim-Zargar was appointed as the deputy minister and head of the National Cultural Heritage Organization.

In a decree by Ayatollah Jannati, the representative of the leader in the Union of Islamic Precollegiate Student Societies, Mas'ud Farahanian was appointed as the secretary of the Cultural Planning Council of this union and began his duties.

In separate decrees by the director of the National Airlines Organization, Mohammad 'Ali 'Abbasnezhad, deputy director of the organization, while retaining his position, was appointed as the administrative and financial deputy director; Mohammad Mehdi Sadeqi as the director general for coordinating national airport affairs; Mahmud Shadbahr as the deputy director for executive and student affairs of the Higher Education Complex of the National Airlines; and Engineer Qasem Mirjalili as the director of the Yazd Airport.

Ayatollah Yazdi, the head of the Judicial Branch, issued a decree appointing Hojjat ol-Eslam Saddiqi as the deputy director of the National Inspection Organization.

Engineer Gharazi, the minister of post, telegraph and telephone, issued separate decrees appointing Messrs. 'Abd Khazar Kamrani and Seyyed Zia'oddin Soja'i-Borhan as the deputy director for projected plans and deputy for legal and Majles affairs of this ministry, respectively.

Upon the suggestion of the minister of foreign affairs and the approval of the president, Mohsen Morteza'ifar was appointed as the consul general of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Munich.

Previously he served as the director general of the International Relations Office of the Presidential Institute and head of the Protocol Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In a decree by Engineer Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh, the minister of industries, Mehrdad Voqufi was appointed as the advisor to the minister.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rahimian, the representative of the religious guardian and head of the Shahid Foundation, issued separate decrees appointing the directors general of the Shahid Foundation in the Province of Fars and Bushehr and the heads of the office of this foundation in the cities.

* 2 Jun Appointments

93LA0082E Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian
2 Jun 93 p 3

[Text] Engineer Gharazi, the minister of post, telegraph and telephone, issued separate decrees appointing 'Abd Khazar Kamrani and Seyyed Zia'oddin Shoja'i as the deputy minister of plans and programs and deputy minister for legal and Majles affairs of this ministry, respectively.

Engineer Mohsen Mehra'alizadeh, on the basis of an appointment decree by Engineer Amrollahi, the head of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization, became the deputy director of atomic power plant affairs of this organization.

*** 9 Jun Appointments**

93LA0082F Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA' in Persian
9 Jun 93 p 4

[Text] Upon the suggestion of Gen. Hoseyn Moqarrabi, the commander of the Central Security Region of Tehran, and the approval of Gen. 'Abdollah 'Aqaba'i, the commander of the Greater Tehran Security Zone, Guard Corps Col. 'Abbas Sarhangi was appointed as the commander of Security Zone 23 of Tehran Central Region, and the services of the previous commander of this zone, Col. 'Ali Golmohammad-Khameneh, were praised.

In a decree by Engineer Mohammad Sa'idikia, the minister of roads and transport, Seyyed Ayatollah Hashemi was appointed as the director general of roads and transport of the Province of Lorestan and began his duties.

*** Popular Satirist on Freedom of Expression**

93LA0083F Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA' in Persian
19 May 93 p 18

[Text] Tehran. IRNA. 22 Ordibehesht [12 May]. The publishing manager of GOL AQA, on the third day of a press seminar, said: If GOL AQA had been published during the previous regime, it would have been banned every week.

Kiyumars Saberi, the manager of GOL AQA, speaking at the press seminar, which was held in conjunction with the Sixth International Book Exhibit at the permanent location of exhibition, made the above announcement and said: GOL AQA magazine, as the most critical Iranian publication, has not even received one warning from the officials of the regime during its life.

He added: We are hopeful for the future, but under the present conditions, we feel that we write critical satire in a country in which the law and its implementors support us, and I think all those who wish to obey the law must be happy that their work is elevated on the basis of the law and not personal taste.

Saberi said: When there are high prices, inflation, and political problems in the country, I cannot hide them. My only support is the handwritten letter of the grand leader. If it did not exist, some would think that writing satire means opposition to the regime of the Islamic Republic.

The manager and owner of GOL AQA said: More than having a problem with the government, sometimes I have problems with my press colleagues.

He said: Satire is attacked in some of the press.

Saberi added: If my pen were to humiliate Iran and weaken the government, I would break my pen. Of course, it is possible for mistakes to have taken place, but they have all been accidental.

Pakistan**President: U.S. Attack on Iraq 'Regrettable'**

BK2906154693 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has described the latest missile attacks against Iraq as a regrettable event. Talking to outgoing Russian Ambassador Yakunin in Islamabad, he said Pakistan believes that however grave the provocation, pursuing the path of confrontation at the international level is unacceptable because it affects the efforts to establish a balanced and peaceful world system based on justice.

The president said that Pakistan still considers the Russian Federation a world power which is an effective element and can play a positive role in the world affairs. He expressed satisfaction at the promotion of Pakistan-Russian relations in the recent years. However, he said, further efforts are required in this connection.

Parliament Urges President To Assume Powers in Punjab

BK2906144993 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Parliament, at its joint sitting in Islamabad, has adopted a resolution which asks the president to issue a proclamation under Clause 1 of Article 234 of the Constitution and assume to himself all functions of the Punjab government. The resolution says the Majlis-i-Shoora—parliament—in joint sitting on consideration of all relevant material and circumstances is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the government of Punjab cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. Therefore, it resolves that the president assumes to himself all functions of the government of the Province of Punjab and all powers vested in or exercisable by both the governor and government of the province—inclusive of the cabinet with chief minister at its head—other than the powers of the provincial assembly.

The resolution says the powers of the provincial assembly of Punjab shall be exercisable under the authority of the Majlis-i-Shoora—parliament—in joint sitting. It resolves that the president make consequential provisions which appear to be necessary or desirable for giving effect to the objects of the proclamation. They include that Mian Mohammad Azhar, ex-governor of Punjab, or any other person duly notified by the federal government shall during the period this proclamation remains in force exercise all the powers exercisable by the provincial government. Mian Mohammad Azhar or any other person duly notified by the federal government shall rescind and recall the perpetrated order of dissolution of 28 June which was passed in violation of the order of the Lahore High Court in the case of Chaudhary Parvez Elahi and the Constitution. He will call the provincial assembly to hold the session for the purpose

of requiring and ascertaining whether [present Chief Minister] Mian Manzoor Ahmad Wattoo commands the confidence of the house and if [he] does not obtain a vote of confidence to remove him from the office of chief minister. If Mian Manzoor Ahmad Wattoo does not obtain a vote of confidence, summon another session for the purpose of finding a person who commands the confidence of the majority of the members of the assembly and appoint such a person to be the chief minister of the province. [sentence as heard] The person so appointed as the chief minister shall take steps with all deliberate dispatch to form a cabinet and to [word indistinct] to be placed before the provincial assembly an annual budget statement.

The resolution says all such steps as directed by the Majlis-i- Shoora—parliament—would also be taken.

The resolution was moved by the federal minister for parliamentary affairs, Chaudhary Amir Hussain. The resolution was adopted by 145 votes in favor, seven against, and a few abstentions. The PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] members walked out.

The session of parliament has been adjourned till Monday [5 July] afternoon.

Speaking on points of order raised by some members, the federal minister for parliamentary affairs, Chaudhary Amir Hussain, said the resolution was not unprecedented. A similar resolution was also submitted during Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's government in respect of Balochistan.

The leader of the opposition in the National Assembly, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, said we should not rush through the resolution and we must consider its ramifications.

Bhutto Apprehensive of Move

BK2906152893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Benazir Bhutto, co-chairperson of the Pakistan People's Party, has said elections should be called to seek fresh mandate from the people. Talking to newsmen at the Parliament House this morning, she criticized the federal government's actions in connection with Punjab matters. She expressed apprehensions that the federal government, instead of going to the people, will assume powers under the Article 234 of the Constitution.

Ishaq Khan Signs Proclamation

BK3006032893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] In Pakistan, the Punjab Province has been placed under central rule. In a late night proclamation signed by the cabinet secretary, the Pakistan President, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, assumed all functions of the Punjab government, giving effect to the resolution passed by parliament earlier in the day.

Our Islamabad correspondent Suresh Chopra reports that the Nawaz Sharif government in a swift move restored Mian Mohammad Azar as the new Punjab governor and also displaced the chief secretary and the inspector of police from their posts. Our correspondent reports that the dramatic developments of yesterday are viewed by political observers as a personal triumph for Mr. Nawaz Sharif and he has sought to regain control of his own province ever since his restoration last month.

Justice Minister Comments; Others React

BK3006103493 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Excerpts] According to a proclamation issued in Islamabad last night, the president has assumed all powers and functions of the governor and the government of Punjab Province, including the powers of the Cabinet and its head, the chief minister. The proclamation further states that the powers of the Punjab Assembly will be exercisable under the authority of the parliament in a joint sitting. The proclamation says the president has assumed these powers in accordance with a resolution adopted at the joint sitting of the parliament yesterday, which stated that a situation has arisen in which the government of Punjab cannot be carried on according to the provisions of the Constitution. [passage omitted]

According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, Mian Mohammad Azhar has assumed responsibilities as the representative of the federal government in Punjab. He will exercise all powers as notified in the proclamation. The news agency adds that the federal government has assumed all functions of the Punjab government and the powers exercisable by the governor and the chief minister of the province in accordance with the resolution adopted by the parliament at its joint sitting yesterday under the Article 234 of the Constitution.

Following the assumption of the functions of the Punjab government by the federal government, major administrative changes have been made in the province. Parvez Masood has been appointed as the chief secretary and Nasir Cheema as the inspector general of police of the province. The services of the current chief secretary, Javed Qureshi, and Inspector General of Police Ghulam Akhtar Malik have been referred to the federal government.

Federal Law and Justice Minister Chaudhary Abdul Ghafoor, addressing a news conference in Islamabad yesterday, said that the federal government was forced to assume powers under Article 234 of the Constitution in view of the serious violation of provisions of the Constitution by the Punjab government and its actions challenging the authority of the Punjab government. He said the prime minister had written letters to the Punjab governor and the chief minister to convene a session of the Punjab Assembly under Articles 138 and 149 of the Constitution. The Lahore High Court had also directed

them to do so, but the governor refused to comply and challenged the authority of the federal government.

Ministers, senators, and members of the National Assembly have welcomed the adoption of the aforementioned resolution by the parliament, saying that the step will restore normalcy to Punjab. They said the situation had reached a point where the federal government had no option but to intervene. They added that Punjab Province was not being run according to the Constitution and the current government has taken a step in the right direction by raising this issue at the joint sitting of parliament. Among those who welcomed the resolution are Sardar Yaqub Khan Nasir, federal minister for states and frontier regions; Senator Subedar Mando Khel; and member of the National Assembly Sardar Yusuf.

Ghulam Mohammad Billour, the federal railway minister and Awami National Party leader, has said that elements which are now claiming to be champions of democracy have a very bad record of democratic traditions themselves. In this connection, he specifically mentioned the declaration of the state of emergency in 1973 when emergency was imposed within 24 hours of the enactment of the 1973 legislation.

Benazir Bhutto, the leader of the opposition in the National Assembly, has criticized the resolution adopted at the joint sitting of parliament. Addressing a news conference in the parliament house, she said the resolution is against the Constitution and that she will contact the general public to explain the issue to them.

AFP: Governor Still in Place

BK3006105493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1013 GMT
30 Jun 93

[Text] Islamabad, June 30 (AFP)—Pakistan's strategic central province of Punjab found itself with two opposing governors and two executives Wednesday [30 June] as the battle for supremacy between President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif took a new turn.

Governor Chaudhary Altaf Hussain was still in place despite an emergency resolution by the federal parliament late Tuesday that Islamabad should take over administration of the province, while Chief Minister Manzoor Wattoo refused outright to quit.

Ishaq Khan, meanwhile, showed no sign of issuing the necessary proclamation giving the federal government control of Sharif's home state, and experts said there was no time limit for him to do so.

This latest development in Pakistan's political crisis increased uncertainty about the capacity of politicians to control the course of events and heightened the possibility of the influential armed forces intervening.

An emergency session of both houses of parliament passed the resolution Tuesday amid a walkout headed by

Benazir Bhutto's opposition People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) after events Monday in Punjab.

The High Court of Lahore had reinstated the provincial assembly that had been dissolved May 30 by the governor with the approval of the president when the majority of deputies were preparing to declare themselves for the prime minister.

Seven minutes after the High Court ruling, the governor—whether acting on advice from the president or on his own initiative is not clear—issued a new decree dissolving the assembly again, setting a record for the shortest life of a parliamentary body.

Former governor Mian Mohammed Azhar, favourable to Sharif, was reappointed to replace the president's man Altaf Hussain, but the latter had still not stepped down Wednesday.

His ally Watto called the government's decision to impose central rule in Punjab "immoral and unconstitutional."

"Power can not be gained through resolution of the parliament," he told a news conference. "My government will resist strongly."

Watto said he was appealing to the Supreme Court, and said he had the backing of the chief ministers in Pakistan's other three provinces.

The government has also changed the provincial police chief and the chief secretary of the Punjab administration, but the spokesman for Bhutto's PDA, Shafqat Mahmood, described the appointments as "irrelevant," aimed at trying to show that the federal government was in control of the situation.

The dispute between Sharif and Ishaq Khan blew up in April when the prime minister began moves to curb the president's powers. The latter promptly used those powers to sack Sharif and dissolve the national assembly, but 38 days later the Supreme Court ruled his action out of order.

But in the meantime Ishaq Khan had strengthened his control in the provinces, notably in Punjab, home to 60 percent of Pakistan's 120 million inhabitants.

As a result, more than 100 deputies of the Punjab assembly, supporters of Sharif, have not left a major Islamabad hotel for a fortnight, fearful of returning to Punjab.

The prime minister has placed paramilitary guards on his residence in Lahore to avoid having to resort to the police, who are controlled by the provincial executive.

Since the start of the crisis, the army has exercised exemplary discretion.

The chief of the general staff, General Abdul Waheed, considered the third pillar of power in Pakistan with the

prime minister and the president, told western diplomats at the start of the week that the army would remain neutral.

The armed forces themselves are split in support between the president and the prime minister, but rumours of their return to power in the country they have ruled for 25 of its 46 years are multiplying.

"It would take us 10 years for the military to restore order to the chaos that has resulted from five years of civilian rule," said one army officer.

Khan Spokesman Denies Signing

BK3006112093 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] A spokesman of the President House, commenting on the reports appearing in today's newspapers, has clarified that President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has not so far approved or signed the proclamation in pursuance of Article 234 of the Constitution. According to APP, the spokesman said that the president till this afternoon had not received the summary in this connection. The spokesman said under the rules, the president gives his approval to such a proclamation by signing it on the advice of the prime minister, which is to be tendered through a summary. Such a summary includes the resolution passed by the joint sitting of the parliament duly signed and authenticated by the speaker.

Sri Lanka

LTTE Raises Fresh Demands for Release of Policemen

BK2906115793 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Government emissary commissioner general of rehabilitation, Brigadier Ananda Weerasekhera, flew back to Colombo yesterday from Jaffna as the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] had gone back on its promise to release the remaining 33 policemen and one

soldier. Brigadier Weerasekhera told LANKAPUVATH yesterday that although the government had kept to its promise by easing the restrictions on seven items of goods which were now on their way to Jaffna, the LTTE had gone back on their word and (?raised) fresh demands. This decision was conveyed to him when he went to Jaffna on Sunday [27 June] to arrange for the transport of 34 persons and their relatives back to Colombo. Joint Operations Command chief General Hamilton Wanasinghe said that he had ordered the ship carrying the banned items to Jaffna, which was now on the high seas, to sail to the security forces headquarters at the port of (?Kankanitivu) and not to proceed for the Point Pedro as originally scheduled.

'At Least' 23 LTTE Terrorists Killed in Batticaloa

BK2906122693 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Sri Lankan security forces hit hard at the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] killing at least 23 terrorists, including the organization's chief treasurer for the Batticaloa District on Sunday [27 June]. A military spokesman told LANKAPUVATH that security forces moved through the jungles of Kallar in the Trincomalee District and overran a large LTTE training base on the border of Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Polonnaruwa Districts, killing at least 20 terrorists, five of whose bodies were recovered. Two soldiers were also killed in the fighting. The chief LTTE treasurer for the Batticaloa District, codenamed Madan, was shot dead by troops at (?Malawadayan) on the outskirts of Batticaloa town. Two terrorists were killed in the security forces ambush at (?Mawadimuddimuma) also in the Batticaloa District. Meanwhile, a subinspector of police and a constable were killed when they were ambushed by the LTTE on the Mannar coast in northwestern Sri Lanka. The military spokesman also said that the assistant government agent of Vauvnathivu was abducted by the LTTE terrorists in the Batticaloa District.